

*Library*

THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF SKIPTON

# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

# MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

## 1954

BY

M. Hunter, M.B.E., M.D., D.P.H.





THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF SKIPTON

A N N U A L    R E P O R T

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year

1954

by

M. HUNTER, M.B.E., M.D., D.P.H.



Digitized by the Internet Archive  
in 2018 with funding from  
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b30089918>



Divisional Health Office,  
19a, High Street,  
SKIPTON

To the Chairman and Members  
of the Health Committee.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting for your information my Annual Report for the year 1954., this being the seventh report I have submitted to the Council. Included as an appendix is a report on the Local Health Authority's services in the West Riding County Council's No.1. Health Division which covers the urban districts of Silsden, Earby, Barnoldswick and Skipton, and the Skipton Rural District.

The Report deals mainly with environmental hygiene, as it has done for many years. And whilst the safety of water and food supplies, the control of infectious disease, housing, and schemes of drainage and sanitation retain their importance, the Appendix shows how greatly the scope of our work has widened in recent times. The emphasis now being placed on social medicine and the health and well being of the community as a whole is indicative of the change in outlook which has occurred.

I would like to thank the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their interest and assistance, and to record my appreciation of the loyal work of the Staff of the Department.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

M. HUNTER.

Medical Officer of Health.

## SECTION A - STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Area of the Urban District (acres)	...	...	146,087
Estimated population	...	...	24,100
Population at 1951 census	...	...	23,715
Number of inhabited houses (estimated)	...	...	8,294
Rateable Value for General Rate	...	...	£144,296.
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	...	...	£564.14. 1d.

### BIRTHS:

		<u>Total:</u>	<u>Male:</u>	<u>Female:</u>
Live, legitimate	...	356	169	187
Illegitimate	...	<u>8</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>5</u>
	Total:	<u>364</u>	<u>172</u>	<u>192</u>
Still, legitimate	...	5	1	4
Illegitimate	...	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	Total:	<u>5</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>4</u>
Total Births:		<u>369</u>	<u>173</u>	<u>196</u>

### BIRTH RATES:

Live Births (per 1,000 estimated population)	...	15.10
Still Births (per 1,000 live and still births)	...	13.55

### DEATH RATES:

(crude)

(per 1,000 estimated population)

All causes	...	13.36
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	...	.04
Other forms of Tuberculosis	...	-
Respiratory Diseases	...	1.41
Cancer	...	2.19
Heart and Circulatory Diseases	...	5.35

### Death Rate of Infants under one year of age.

All infants (per 1,000 live births)	...	24
-------------------------------------	-----	----

### MATERNAL MORTALITY:

Rates per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births	...	-
---	-----	---



DEATHS:  
Cause of Death.

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Males:</u>	<u>Female:</u>	<u>Total:</u>
Tuberculosis Respiratory	1	-	1
Tuberculosis other	-	-	-
Syphilitic Diseases	1	-	1
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm, stomach	8	4	12
Malignant Neoplasm, lung, bronchus	9	2	11
Malignant Neoplasm, breast	-	5	5
Malignant Neoplasm, uterus	-	3	3
Other malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	12	9	21
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	1	-	1
Diabetes	-	1	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	21	39	60
Coronary diseases, Angina	35	28	63
Hypertension with heart disease	8	2	10
Other heart diseases	18	22	40
Other Circulatory diseases	3	13	16
Influenza	1	3	4
Pneumonia	6	4	10
Bronchitis	13	6	19
Other diseases of respiratory system	1	-	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	-	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	-	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	1	2
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-	1
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	-	-	-
Congenital malformations	2	1	3
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	9	13	22
Motor vehicle accidents	1	-	1
All other accidents	6	2	8
Suicide	3	-	3
Homicide and operations of War	-	-	-

All Causes:

164 158 322

## COMMENTARY ON VITAL STATISTICS:

### BIRTHS:

The birth rate of 15.10 is higher than that of 13.75 recorded last year, but is a little below the rate of 15.2 for England and Wales.

### DEATHS:

The death rate of 13.36 is higher than last year's rate of 10.07. It is also higher than the national figure of 11.3.

### INFANTILE MORTALITY:

The rate of 24 is higher than that of 18 for the previous year, but is comparable to the rate of 25 for England and Wales as a whole.

### MATERNAL MORTALITY:

There were no deaths attributable to childbirth or the puerperium.

## SECTION B:

### PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

#### 1. GENERAL:

The home nursing, midwifery, health visiting, home help, mental health and ambulance services are provided by the County Council and are described in the Appendix. Reference will also be found there to clinic arrangements, health education, vaccination and immunisation and the school health service.

#### 2. LABORATORY SERVICES:

There has been no change in the arrangements whereby the Medical Research Council's laboratories at Wakefield and Bradford provide a service for the examination of water, milk, ice-cream and a variety of pathological specimens. This is an excellent service, and the co-operation received of a high order.

#### 3. HOSPITAL SERVICES:

Hospital organisation is no longer a local matter, and the services available to this area are provided by the Leeds and Manchester Regional Hospital Boards. The appropriate Hospital



- continued

Management Committees are responsible for day to day administration, but are in nearly all respects subordinate to the Hospital Boards.

Essential details of the hospitals within or adjacent to the Divisional area are given in table form. The average cost per patient per week is also given in some instances, in the belief that these figures may be of interest to those who read this report. For it is the ever increasing cost of hospital treatment which is placing such a heavy financial burden on the National Health Service.

<u>Situation</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Beds</u>	<u>Cost</u> <u>per week</u>		
Burley-in-Wharfedale	Scalebor Park	Mental Illness	323			
Burnley	Victoria					
	Hospital	General	168			
Burnley	General					
	Hospital	General	656			
Burnley	Marsden	Infectious				
	Hospital	Diseases	100			
Burnley	Bank Hall	Maternity	51			
Colne	Christiana					
	Hartley	Maternity	16			
Grassington	Grassington	Chest Diseases				
	Hospital		184	£9.	5.	5.
Ilkley	Middleton					
	Hospital	- do -	376	£8.	18.	5.
Ilkley	St. Winidfred's	Maternity	12			
Keighley	Victoria					
	Hospital	General	143	£16.	2.	2.
Keighley	St. John's	Long term				
	Hospital	sick	253	£8.	0.	2.
		Maternity	34			
Keighley	Morton Banks	Infectious				
		Diseases	72	£19.	4.	5.
Menston	Menston					
	Hospital	Mental Illness	2,540			
Skipton	General					
	Hospital	General	64	£15.	7.	3.
Skipton	Raikeswood					
	Hospital	Long Term sick	182	£7.	1.	0.
Skipton	Cawder Ghyll					
	Hospital	Maternity	16	£20.	7.	6.
Settle	Castleberg	Mental				
	Hospital	Deficiency	169	£4.	11.	6.



It should, however, be appreciated that many patients go direct to hospitals in Leeds, Bradford and elsewhere, in particular, those suffering from conditions in which treatment facilities are concentrated on a regional basis, e.g. neuro-surgical, genito-urinary, plastic surgery, etc.

There has been no difficulty in securing accommodation for maternity patients, or cases of infectious disease. Accommodation for the long term sick, particularly females, is often difficult to find in the winter months, but there is promise of developments which should lead to improved use of the available beds. In the meantime, the Health Department continues to supply information to assist in deciding the priority for admission. The smaller hospitals continue to be handicapped by difficulties associated with the availability of nurses and resident doctors, and to a lesser degree, domestic staff.

4. BLIND PERSONS:

There are 31 blind persons in the district. The Blind Persons Teacher exercises supervision and helps with their problems, and specialist examinations are carried out periodically by an ophthalmologist. The increasing proportion of old people is producing an increase in the incidence of blindness, much of it being due to cataract and glaucoma, but which is in some measure preventable by earlier diagnosis and treatment.

5. WATER SUPPLIES:

Mr. Yeadon, the Engineer and Surveyor has kindly supplied the following information:-

SCHEDULE "A"

Information re quality and quantity from the Council's own undertakings in the year 1st January, 1954, to 31st December, 1954.

<u>Township</u>	<u>Quality of Water</u>	<u>Quantity of water</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Appletreewick	Generally satisfactory	Sufficient	pH value of water satisfactory after limestone treatment.
Beansley	Satisfactory	"	Bulk supply from Chatsworth Estates to 8 of the 13 dwellings in the hanlet.



<u>Township</u>	<u>Quality of Water</u>	<u>Quantity of Water</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Bradleys Both	Satisfactory	Sufficient	
Buckden	Satisfactory after Chlorination	"	
Calton	Doubtful quality	"	
Coniston Cold	Satisfactory after Chlorination	Insufficient	It is hoped to commence the scheme to pump water from Gargrave during 1955.
Conistone- w-Kilnsey	Doubtful quality	Sufficient	Only two houses in Kilnsey supplied.
Cononley	Satisfactory	"	
Draughton	Satisfactory	"	Bulk supply from Skipton U.D.C.
Embsay-w- Eastby	Satisfactory	"	-do-
Gargrave	Satisfactory after Chlorination	Sufficient. Not sufficient storage capacity	Supply augmented during dry periods by pumping from Pound Well.
Glusburn	Generally Satisfactory	Insufficient	Supply augmented from Cowling during periods of drought.
Grassington	Generally satisfactory after Chlorination	Insufficient	Supply augmented from Brow Well in periods of drought.

<u>Township</u>	<u>Quality of Water</u>	<u>Quantity of Water</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Hartlington	Satisfactory	Sufficient	
Hebden	Doubtful quality	Insufficient storage capacity	
Hetton	Doubtful quality	Insufficient storage capacity	
Kettlewell- w-Starbotten	Doubtful quality	Sufficient	Several high level houses in Starbotten have only a poor pressure.
Linton	Generally satisfactory	Sufficient	Supply augmented from Threshfield.
Rylstone	Satisfactory	Insufficient storage capacity	
Steeton-w- Eastburn	Generally satisfactory	Sufficient	
Sutton	Satisfactory after Chlorination	Generally sufficient	Supply augmented from Keighley Borough in periods of drought.
Thornton	Generally satisfactory	Sufficient	



SCHEDULE "B".

Bacteriological Examinations and Chemical Analyses of Water  
samples taken in the year 1st January, 1954 to 31st December,  
1954.

<u>Township</u>	<u>No. of samples of raw water.</u>	<u>Results.</u>	<u>No. of samples of treated water.</u>	<u>Results.</u>	<u>Chemical Samples.</u>	<u>Results.</u>
Apple-tree-wick	4	(1 Class 1 (1 Class 2 (1 Class 3 (1 Class 4			6	Good organic purity.
Bradleys Both	(Gravity (5 Class 1 (Supply (1 Class 3 ( 6 ( (Borehole 3 Class 1 (Supply 3					
Buckden	2	2 Class 4	2	(1 Class 1 (1 Class 3		
Oughtershaw	16	16 Class 4			2	Satisfactory organic purity.
Calton	2	2 Class 4				
Coniston Cold	2	(1 Class 3 (1 Class 4	2	(1 Class 1 (1 Class 4		
Conistone-w-Kilnsey	2	2 Class 4				
Cononley	(Borehole 3 Class 1 (Supply ( 3 ( (Gravity (1 Class 1 (Supply (1 Class 2 ( 3 (1 Class 3					
Enbsay-w-Eastby	2 2	2 Class 1 (1 Class 3 (1 Class 4				

<u>Township.</u>	<u>No. of samples of raw water.</u>	<u>Results.</u>	<u>No. of samples of treat- ed water.</u>	<u>Results.</u>	<u>Chemical Samples.</u>	<u>Results</u>
Gargrave	4	(3 Class 3 (1 Class 4	2	2 Class 1	2	Good organic purity.
Glusburn	High Level Reservoir 3 Low Level Reservoir 2 Middle Reservoir 3 Borehole 3	(2 Class 1 (1 Class 4  2 Class 1  (2 Class 1 (1 Class 4 3 Class 3			2	"
Grassington	Gravity 11 Brow Well 3	(2 Class 2 (3 Class 3 (6 Class 4 3 Class 4	9	(6 Class 1 (1 Class 3 (2 Class 4	2  1	"  Satisfactory quality
Hartlington	2	(1 Class 2 (1 Class 4				
Hebden	6	(4 Class 3 (2 Class 4				
Hetton	3	(1 Class 3 (2 Class 4			1	Good organic purity.
Kettlewell	2	2 Class 4				
Linton	4	(1 Class 1 (3 Class 4				
Starbottle	2	(1 Class 2 (1 Class 3				



<u>Township</u>	<u>No. of samples of raw water.</u>	<u>Results.</u>	<u>No. of samples of treat- ed water.</u>	<u>Results.</u>	<u>Chemical Samples</u>	<u>Results.</u>
Steeton- w-Eastburn	6	(1 Class 1 (3 Class 3 (2 Class 4				
Sutton	Gravity Supply 5	(4 Class 3 (1 Class 4	5	(3 Class 1 (2 Class 4		
	Sutton Mill 3	(1 Class 2 (1 Class 3 (1 Class 4				
Thornton	3	(1 Class 1 (2 Class 4				
Threshfield (Linton Supply)	3	(2 Class 1 (1 Class 3				

#### SCHEDULE "C"

Water liable to have plumbo-solvent action and action taken.

Gargrave - Two chemical analyses made of samples of water collected from the gravity supply - pH 6.2

#### SCHEDULE "D"

Action taken during year to supplies liable to contamination.

<u>Source.</u>	<u>Precaution.</u>
Buckden	All water chlorinated
Coniston Cold	" " " "
Gargrave	Gravity supply and Pound supplementary supply chlorinated.
Glusburn	Low level supply chlorinated; extra precautions taken when borehole supply is in use. Reservoirs treated with copper sulphate to eliminate growth of algae.

<u>Source</u>	<u>Precaution</u>
Grassington	Gravity and Brow Well supplementary supply chlorinated.
Sutton	Gravity supply chlorinated.

SCHEDULE "E".

Properties supplied with water direct to houses by Skipton Rural District Council.

<u>Township.</u>	<u>No. of Premises.</u>	<u>Est. Population.</u>
Appletreewick	34	90
Beansley	8	20
Bradloys Both	186	483
Buckden	35	68
Calton	10	30
Coniston Cold	42	133
Conistone-w-Kilnsey	19	70
Cononley	251	820
Draughton	28	84
Embsay	361	1,154
Gargrave	489	1,052
Glusburn	871	2,360
Grassington	378	1,075
Hartlington	14	60
Hebden	82	237
Hetton	32	90
Kettlewell-w-		
Starbotten	103	302
Linton	48	373 (incl. Linton Camp)
Rylstone	10	24
Steeton-w-Eastburn	870	2,347
Sutton	831	2,260
Thornton	80	250
Total:	<u>4,782</u>	<u>13,382</u>



During the past year attention has been drawn to a subject hitherto never mentioned in these reports. It is the fluoridation of water supplies which is already practised on a considerable scale in the United States of America, based on the knowledge that an appropriate concentration of fluorine in drinking water will greatly reduce the incidence of dental caries. Arrangements have been made for the addition of fluorine to the water supplies of certain towns in this country, and as the fluorine content of the Skipton water is less than 0.1 parts compared with a recommended 1.0 parts per million, the results will be awaited with interest. There appears to be no valid objections to this valuable piece of preventive medicine, and the cost is likely to be small.

#### SCHEDULE "F".

6.

#### Sewerage.

##### Parish.

Buckden	Scheme prepared and submitted to Ministry. Approval not yet granted.
Starboston	- do -
Grassington	Scheme for extension of sewer to serve Wood Lane Area prepared and submitted to the Ministry. Approval not yet granted.
Gangrave	Scheme for extension of sewer to serve Smallholdings prepared and submitted to Ministry. Approval not yet granted.
Sutton	Scheme for extension of sewer to serve eight houses at Sutton Fields prepared and submitted to Ministry. Approval not yet granted.

#### 7. ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION:

The measurement of atmospheric pollution is undertaken by the County Council in conjunction with the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, and three types of instrument are located at the Divisional Health Office. The deposit gauge measures the amount of deposited matter polluting the atmosphere, the lead peroxide instrument the amount of sulphur ( $\text{SO}_2$ ) pollution, and the smoke filter the amount of suspended impurity.

The results of analyses with these instruments are shown in the following table:-



Month	Rainfall in mm.	Total Solids deposited in tons per sq. mile	Sulphur in mgms. (SO <sub>3</sub> ) per 100 sq. cms. per day	Average daily sus- pended impurity in mgms. per cubic metre
January	98	22.64	0.94	30.9
February	59	16.95	0.96	24.1
March	62	30.69	0.92	30.9
April	16	9.30	0.59	26.8
May	96	20.25	0.48	30.9
June	92	15.50	0.48	20.6
July	111	19.03	0.48	20.6
August	143	16.37	0.24	16.5
September	140	20.62	0.68	28.9
October	155	20.55	0.75	26.4
November	153	19.17	0.88	39.4
December	155	26.99	1.01	25.0

Measurement of atmospheric pollution on a national scale, based on observations from 150 stations, show an annual production of 2,400,000 tons of smoke - 1,290,000 tons from wasteful domestic fires, 700,000 tons from industry, 400,000 tons from railways and 10,000 tons from generating stations. In addition, 5,000,000 tons of sulphur dioxide, and 570,000 tons of ashes are produced.

Attention has again been focussed on this evil record by the Beaver Committee Report, which describes atmospheric pollution as "a social and economic evil of the first magnitude", estimated to cost the country £250 million per year, and to waste 10 million tons of coal.

The effect on health is considerable. "Smog" was responsible for 4,000 deaths in London in December, 1952., and the death rates from bronchitis in this country are far higher than they are in Scandinavia and elsewhere. These are but two points. To get rid of this smoke would probably not cost more than the bill which the country pays annually (i.e. £250 million), and it is hoped that energetic steps will now be taken to implement the Beaver Committee's recommendations.

#### 8. NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948, and 1951.

These Acts provide for the removal to hospital or other suitable place of persons suffering from grave chronic disease, or being aged, infirm, or physically handicapped are living in insanitary conditions, being unable to devote to themselves, and not receiving from other persons proper care and attention.



It was necessary to obtain authority for the compulsory removal of one old lady who had been confined to her bed for many months under deteriorating conditions. Other cases which came to notice during the year were dealt with by alternative methods.

#### 9. FOOD HYGIENE:

Although there was no outbreak of food poisoning in the district during the year, this is a matter which still requires the closest attention. This is shown by reference to the cases reported in England and Wales in 1953., being the latest figures available at the time of writing, which show that the number of incidents, (i.e. outbreaks and sporadic cases) was 5,277 being an increase of 1,758 over the previous year. 10,373 cases were notified and there is evidence that at least 15,000 persons had symptoms; all preventable, no matter whether infection was due to salmonella, staphylococci or other organisms. 51 cases were fatal.

The foods implicated in outbreaks were similar to previous years, the most important being processed and made-up or reheated dishes - pies, brawn, sandwiches, sausage, cold and pressed meat, stews and the like. Trifles, ice-cream, custard and cream buns again added their quota, followed by processed fish and duck eggs. Duck eggs are used extensively in this country, and as many of them are infected they should never be eaten unless boiled for fifteen minutes, and used only in cooking where the food is subjected to prolonged heating at high temperatures after the eggs are added.

Although food poisoning is usually more inconvenient than serious, it is important as an indication of poor hygiene and inadequate or wrong use of refrigeration in kitchens and food factories. Exhortation and education are obviously not meeting with much success yet. But immediate improvement would result if customers refused food prepared in conditions known to be unhygienic and by methods known to be potentially dangerous.

#### 10. CREMATION:

The Skipton Urban District Council's crematorium was opened on the 30th May, 1952., and between that date and the end of 1954 over two thousand cremations have taken place. There is an increasing demand for this simple, complete, hygienic and reverent method of disposal of the dead; and as the half million people who die in Great Britain each year would require some 500 acres of land for burial, it is also an economic method.

The Medical Officer of Health is the medical referee to the Crematorium, assisted by a deputy as required.



## SECTION G.

### PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

#### 1. DIPHTHERIA:

Another year has passed without a case of diphtheria, but there are cases occurring in England and Wales every week, and it is important that the low incidence should not result in a false sense of security, to the neglect of immunisation. Further reference to this matter is made in the Appendix.

#### 2. SCARLET FEVER:

This disease was more prevalent, cases occurring every month in some part of the district. Total notifications were 46 compared with 24, 20 and 24 in the three preceding years. They were all reported to be of a mild type, and so far as is known, without complications.

#### 3. WHOOPING COUGH:

28 notifications were received, showing a further reduction in cases when compared with 58, 64 and 182 in the preceding years. Whether this reduction is due entirely to immunisation against the disease, it is not possible to state, but the consensus of medical opinion is that if whooping cough does occur it is certainly less serious in the child who has been immunised.

#### 4. MEASLES:

As 250 and 232 notifications were received in 1953 and 1952 respectively, a reduction in incidence was to be expected. There were in fact, only 8 notifications.

#### 5. SMALLPOX.

No cases were notified, but the vaccination state is low throughout the whole country, and the alarm which resulted from the epidemic in 1953 has been short lived. The demand for vaccination has fallen away proportionately, although at the time of writing this report an epidemic exists just across the Channel, in Brittany.

In the 1953 outbreak the source was not traced despite systematic and extensive enquiries. It might have been infected raw cotton, and this is not the first time that suspicion has been cast on this material, which comes from countries where smallpox is prevalent, often endemic. In the circumstances it was considered desirable to offer protection to those workers who handle cotton up to the carding stage, and fourteen men so engaged were vaccinated or re-vaccinated. Re-vaccination will be offered every two years.



## 6. TUBERCULOSIS:

About a hundred years ago 65,000 deaths were caused by tuberculosis each year in England and Wales in a population of 20 millions. In 1939 the deaths numbered 25,600 with the population more than doubled, and since then there have been further falls to 10,585 in 1952., and 8,902 in 1953. This is satisfactory in so far as it goes, and is attributable to some extent to sanatorium and surgical treatment, and the isolation of infectious patients, but to a larger extent to better standards of living - better nutrition, better housing, and better working conditions. Although it must not be forgotten that the tuberculosis death rate for those in the lowest social class still remains twice as high as for those in the highest social class. Tuberculosis is, therefore, a social evil which can and must be stamped out. It is, therefore, a matter for concern that although mortality is declining fast there is no diminution in the number of fresh notifications. It is believed that these notifications are mainly the result of more effective and earlier case finding, but there is another factor. That is the survival of cases who would have died in the days before effective drug treatment was available, but who now remain alive, in some instances in an infectious state, and in a position to disseminate the disease amongst their contacts. It would, therefore, seem that before the disease is abolished there is an intermediate stage in which patients are an increased burden on the welfare and curative sources, and this implies the need for intensification of the search for early cases, hitherto undiscovered sources of infection, and the reasonable segregation of the above chronic cases. The routine methods of preventive medicine are being applied with an additional measure introduced for the first time this year. This consists in obtaining parental consent for the application of a tuberculin test to each school entrant. The great majority of these children have not been infected with tuberculosis germs and give a negative reaction. But a positive reaction implies infection, and now that most milk supplies are from tuberculin tested herds or pasteurised, examination of the child's family contacts is considered worthwhile. This is undertaken with the help of the Chest Physician, and has already shown results.

In so far as this district is concerned only 5 cases of tuberculosis were notified during the year, compared with 22, 24 and 25 in the three preceding years.

12 patients were admitted to tuberculosis hospitals and 19 were discharged. 119 cases remained on the register at the end of the year. The waiting lists for admission to these hospitals have been greatly reduced of late, and admission can now be secured in most instances almost as soon as treatment is recommended and accepted.



- continued

Since 1948 the treatment of tuberculosis has been the responsibility of the hospitals and chest physicians, but the health authority's responsibilities are closely integrated in this area by the employment of health visitors in the chest clinics, and a monthly case conference where all relevant problems are discussed. This has proved to be of great value.

During the year arrangements were made for persons to be X-rayed who were taking up appointments in the Division involving contact with children, such X-rays now being obligatory, and all persons holding such positions were encouraged to attend the Mass Radiography Unit for an annual check.

#### B.C.G. Vaccine.

This is a form of inoculation similar to smallpox vaccination, and produces in the human body an artificially acquired resistance to the disease. It has been approved by the Chest Physician in all suitable cases, and although it is still uncertain whether it gives complete protection, and precisely how long the immunity lasts, there is no doubt that it reduces the risk of contracting tuberculosis.

In addition to the vaccinations performed by the Chest Physician, mostly in young children, B.C.G. vaccination has this year been offered to thirteen year old children, exhibiting a negative response to tuberculin tests. The principle is the same, but in this case aims at providing an immunity through adolescence, which is considered a dangerous age in respect of tuberculous infection. Details of this scheme are given in the Appendix to this report, in the School Health Service section.

#### Mass Radiography.

This service has been operating for 10 years, and there are now seventy units in England and Wales examining some three million people each year. The aim of the service is the detection of early and symptomless cases of tuberculosis, and in general the yield of cases is highest in the age group 15 - 35., and amongst cases referred by general practitioners. A unit of the Leeds Regional Hospital Board visited Skipton in September and a brief report of the findings is as follows:-



	Males:	Females:	Total:
1. Examinations carried out:			
(a) Miniature X-rays taken	711	791	1,502
(b) Large X-rays taken	22	18	40
2. Analyses of provisional findings:			
(a) Cases of active tuberculosis	1	1	2
(b)     "     inactive tuberculosis	5	8	13
(c) Other abnormalities	11	6	17
(d) Failed to reattend for large film	1	-	1

This report is in respect of all people examined during the survey, and is known to include a considerable number of persons resident outside the town.

The numbers are too small to comment upon without reservation, but so far as the results go, 2 cases of active tuberculosis out of 1,502 people examined again compares favourably with an average national rate of 3.5 per 1,000.

#### 7. PNEUMONIA:

28 notifications were received compared with 44 in 1953.

#### 8. DYSENTERY:

17 notifications were received. Fifteen were of a mild type, and eight of these cases occurred in two families. The other two notifications were in respect of the more severe Flexner type. Investigations revealed that one was a carrier who had brought the infection from abroad into a boarding school. Appropriate action and treatment were undertaken immediately, and a potentially dangerous situation was brought under control.

#### 9. OTHER DISEASES:

Three notifications of erysipelas were made, but none of food poisoning, polionyelitis or meningitis.

DISEASES :

Disease Notified	Age Groups.							Age un- known	Total cases notif- ied	Cases adm. to hospi- tal	Total Deaths
	0 to 1	1 to 3	3 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 25	25 and over				
Scarlet Fever	-	4	6	21	11	3	1	-	46	34	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Polio- myelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	1	2	3	2	-	-	-	-	8	-	-
Whooping cough	1	2	8	13	1	2	1	-	28	-	-

[illegible]



REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE  
YEAR 1954.

STAFF OF THE DEPARTMENT.

Chief Sanitary Inspector etc.	A.W. Craven, M.S.I.A., A.M.Inst.P.C. Certificate of R.S.I. & San. Insp. Joint Board as Sanitary Inspector, Cert. of R.S.I. for Meat & Food, Cert. of R.S.I. for Smoke Inspection. Testamur of Institute of Public Cleansing.
Sanitary Inspectors.	G.E. Haigh, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A. Cert. of R.S.I. & San. Insp. Joint Board as Sanitary Inspector. Cert. of R.S.I. for Meat and Food.  W.E. Farley, M.S.I.A. Cert. of R.S.I. & San. Insp. Joint Board as Sanitary Inspector. Cert. & Dip. of R.I.P.H. & H. Cert. of R.S.I. for Meat and Food.
Junior Assistant.	A.B. Lee.
General Clerks.	Miss E. Sharples (Snr). Miss C.M. Dewhirst.

Council Offices,  
Granville Street,  
Skipton.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my report on the Sanitary Services for the year 1954., which records my fifth complete year of service with the Skipton Rural Council.

During the year there were a number of changes and extensions in the legislation and other duties of your Sanitary Officers. These changes included the re-introduction of private slaughtering during July. The coming into operation of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954., the Slaughterhouses Act, 1954., the Slaughter of Animals (Amendment) Act, 1954., the Food and Drugs Act, 1954., the Public Health (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations, 1954., and the adoption of the appropriate sections of the West Riding County Council (General Powers) Act, 1951.

During the early part of the year a considerable amount of time was spent in the inspection of existing slaughterhouses and interviewing owners and occupiers on the question of reconditioning and extending their premises. Later the work of actual inspection of the food animals slaughtered was carried out in all cases.

Inspection of food premises was continued regularly although not as frequently as I should have liked, and early in the year the Ministry of Food booklet "Clean Catering" was circulated to the proprietors of catering establishments, and some licensed premises etc., in the area. With one or two exceptions improvement could be recorded.

The inspection of property with a view to demolition action was continued, and nine Clearance Areas were declared and Orders made. A Public Inquiry after objections had been received to certain Addingham Areas was held during October.

It was decided that improvement grants under the Housing Legislation of 50% of improvement work would be paid in approved cases as from the 1st April, 1955., and several applications were received.

Regular collection of household refuse and nightsoil was continued on the same lines as hitherto. During the year one "Karrier Bantan" was replaced by a Dennis 10 cubic yard side loading refuse vehicle.

As may readily be appreciated the introduction of new duties without compensating reduction in other fields put no small strain on the Technical Officers of the Department, and in fact some duties imposed by the new legislation had not been started at the end of December.



The position in this connection was made more acute by the resignation on the 13th November, 1954 of Mr. W.E. Farley to take up an appointment with the Spalding Rural District Council. Whilst the appointment of a successor, Mr. K. Parker was made with as little delay as possible, he did not take up his duties during the year.

I should like to express my appreciation of the help and co-operation of the Medical Officer of Health and the guidance of the Public Health Committee during the year. My grateful thanks are also due to the staff of the Department for the way in which they worked under difficult circumstances to keep arrears of work as low as possible.

I remain,

Your obedient servant,

Arthur W. Craven.

Chief Sanitary and Building Inspector.

In the tables which follow an attempt is made to give a comprehensive picture of the work under this heading which was continued as hitherto by your Officers in the Health Department, and whilst such tables are not the most interesting of reading matter, I know of no other way in which the information can be conveyed in such a concise way. For this reason I hope that the tables will be thoroughly perused.

TABLE 1.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS AND VISITS.

Accumulations and Deposits	5
Ashpits	3
Dustbins	93
Other Nuisances and Visits	239
Closets: Defective	40
Conversions	61
Additional	74
Drains: Defective	80
Blocked	19
New	318
Tested	90
Dampness	9
Dirty and Verminous Houses	23
Foundations	59
Damp Proof Courses	25
New Buildings	361
Completion of Buildings	117
Defective Flues and Fireplaces	17
Defective Floors	1
Factories: with mechanical power	79
Housing (Public Health Act)	52
(Housing Act)	396
(Other Visits)	107
Infectious Diseases: Enquiry	60
Disinfection	37
Keeping of Animals	6
Knackers' Yards	10
Flooding in Cellars	16
Outworkers	4
Overcrowding	7
Petroleum	37
Rain Conductors	7
Roofs	36
Rodent Control	10
Refuse Collection and Disposal	322
Septic Tanks	28
Sinks	4
Shops	3
Smoke: Timed Observations	8
Visits to Boiler Plants	3



Tents, Vans and Sheds	31
Water Supply	60
Bakehouses	106
Butchers' Shops	68
Catering Establishments (Cafes, Hotels etc).	109
Licensed Premises	48
Dairies	1
Fried Fish Shops	37
Fish Mongers	1
Grocers	93
Ice-Cream Premises	6
Other Food Premises	48
Slaughterhouses	126
Meat Inspection: Slaughterhouses	364
Other Premises	1
Distribution of Milk	5
Sampling Milk (Bacteriological)	340
Sampling Water (Bacteriological)	139
(Analysis)	7
Sampling Ice-Cream (Bacteriological)	118
Specimens	19
Unsound Food	45

TABLE 2.

SANITARY REPAIRS AND/OR IMPROVEMENTS CARRIED OUT BY  
INFORMAL ACTION.

Dampness on, or otherwise defective internal walls remedied	15
Dampness on ceilings remedied	5
Dustbins provided (incl. those supplied by the Council)	131
Defective drainage repaired	17
Leaking rain conductors renewed or repaired	14
Defective windows renewed or repaired	14
Perished mastic and putty pointing renewed	12
Water supply pipes renewed	2
Leaking or otherwise defective roofs repaired	11
Unsatisfactory floors and skirting boards repaired	6
New sinks installed	2
Re-pointing carried out	6
Defective sanitary accommodation repaired or renewed	9
Ventilating pipes extended	2
Roof stripped, re-timbered and re-slatted	1

continued -

Natural lighting improved	2
Nuisance from flooding in cellars abated	1
Nuisance from liquid manure abated	6
Defective fire grates and flues repaired or renewed	5
Leaking fire-back boiler renewed	1
Bulging walls re-built	1
Defective washing boilers repaired	1
Defective doors and fittings repaired	8
Re-painting carried out	4
Miscellaneous repairs and improvements	4
Accumulations removed	1

SANITARY REPAIRS AND IMPROVEMENTS CARRIED OUT BY FORMAL ACTION.

New window woodwork and fastners provided	2
Perished mastic pointing renewed	2
Defective doors repaired	1
Damp wall plaster removed and re-plastering carried out	2
New fireback boiler or new firebacks provided	4
Water service pipe renewed	1
Leaking rain conductors renewed	2
Re-pointing carried out	2
Floors re-laid level or floor boards renewed	2
Handrail to stairs provided	1
Additional windows provided	2
Leaking roofs repaired	1
New sinks installed	1
Ceilings re-plastered	1
Stone steps made good	1
New drainage and tanks provided	1
Ventilation provided to larders and bedrooms	2

Persuasion alone is not successful in all cases, and the above table gives details of those repairs in respect of which statutory action had to be taken.



TABLE 3.

SUMMARY OF NOTICES SERVED.

<u>Parish.</u>	<u>Informal</u> <u>Notices.</u>	<u>Complied</u> <u>with.</u>	<u>Statutory</u> <u>Notices.</u>	<u>Complied</u> <u>with.</u>	<u>Under-</u> <u>takings</u> <u>accept-</u> <u>ed</u>	<u>Closing</u> <u>Order.</u>
Addingham	9	8	-	-	3	
Appletreewick	2	-	-	-	-	
Bradleys Both	2	4	9	-	1	
Brogden	-	1	-	-	-	
Buckden	1	1	-	-	-	
Carleton	9	8	-	-	-	
Coniston Cold	-	1	-	-	-	
Cononley	1	1	1	1	-	
Cowling	2	4	-	-	-	
Draughton	2	2	-	-	-	
Embsay-w-						
Eastby	7	7	-	-	-	
Eshton	1	-	-	-	-	
Farnhill	6	2	-	-	-	
Flasby-w-						
Winterburn	1	-	-	-	-	
Gargrave	25	21	-	-	1	
Glusburn	18	11	1	1	-	
Grassington	7	5	-	-	-	
Halton East	1	3	-	-	-	
Hebden	2	1	-	-	-	
Kettlewell-w-						
Starbotten	2	3	-	-	-	
Kildwick	1	-	-	-	-	
Salterforth	6	4	-	-	1	
Steeton-w-						
Eastburn	7	9	-	-	1	
Stirton-w-						
Thorlby	1	1	-	-	-	
Sutton	14	11	-	-	-	
Thornton	3	3	-	-	-	
Threshfield	-	4	1	-	2	
	130	115	12	2	9	

The inspection and supervision of repairs to dwellinghouses continues to occupy a high place in the importance of the work of the Department, and whilst every effort was made to induce the owners of property to carry out essential repairs the resistance of many owners was continued. Even after the appointed day for the commencement of the operation of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954., under which rents of well maintained controlled houses can be raised, there was no appreciable easing of the reluctance of owners to spend money in maintenance.

As hitherto an informal approach to the landlord was made to try to persuade him to carry out repairs before any recommendation to Committee is put forward, and in most cases, after reminders have been sent, the work is done.

TABLE 4.

NEW SANITARY ACCOMMODATION AND ALTERATIONS TO EXISTING CONVENIENCES.

<u>Parish.</u>	<u>Privy Closets to W.Cs.</u>	<u>Pails con- verted to W.Cs.</u>	<u>W.W.Cs. con- verted to W.Cs.</u>	<u>Additional W.Cs provided to old proper- ty.</u>	<u>New Pails.</u>
Addingham		1	1	4	
Bradley				2	
Carleton			5		
Cononley			1	1	
Cowling			3	3	
Embsay			2	4	
Eshton		3			
Gargrave			1		
Glusburn			5	3	
Grassington				1	
Kettlewell				1	
Kildwick-w-					
Farnhill.			3	2	
Lothersdale		2			
Salterforth			3	5	
Steeton-w-					
Eastburn			4	6	
Sutton			7	5	
		6	35	37	



The number of additional W.Cs put into existing property is somewhat smaller than last year, but the number of waste water closets converted to fresh water closets is somewhat more, so that the overall figures are similar and have been so for the last few years.

Towards the end of the year the Council decided that some assistance could be given towards the cost of converting pail closets to the water carriage system, but unfortunately no figure was mentioned, but it was stated that each conversion would be treated on its merits. In my view this scheme is unlikely to have any appreciable effect on the number of pail closets converted during the next few years.

#### DRAINAGE.

The practice of testing new drains when possible was continued and the under-mentioned lengths were tested with water:--

1,313 yards of 4" drain.

25 yards of 6" drain.

The standard of drain laying reached a high standard during the year, and it is now much more common for drains tested to show no leaks at all or a very small amount of porosity in the jointing cement mortar.



TABLE 5.

## HOUSES AND CONVERSIONS TO HOUSES ETC.

Council Houses	Council Flats	Buildings converted to houses etc.	Private Houses	No. of W.Cs in above Houses	No. of Baths in above Houses.	No. with Council water laid on.	No. with Private Water from Statutory or Private Undertakings	No. connected to sewer.	No. connected to septic tanks.	
18	8	-	3	30	29	-	29	29	-	Addingham
10	4	-	1	15	15	15	-	15	-	Bradley
-	-	1	-	1	1	-	1	-	1	Beansley
-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	Buckden
4	8	-	-	12	12	12	-	12	-	Cononley
2	-	-	-	2	2	-	2	2	-	Cowling
-	-	-	2	2	2	-	-	-	2	Carleton
4	-	-	1	5	5	5	-	5	-	Enbsay-w-
-	-	2	-	2	2	-	2	-	2	Eastby
-	-	-	-	9	9	9	-	9	-	Eshton
8	8	-	1	28	27	27	-	27	-	Gargrave
12	8	1	6	8	8	8	-	8	-	Glusburn
4	4	-	-	2	2	2	-	2	-	Grassington
3	-	-	-	2	2	-	2	-	-	Hebden
-	-	-	2	2	2	-	-	-	2	Kettlewell
-	-	1	-	1	1	-	1	-	1	Lothersdale
-	-	-	1	9	9	9	-	9	-	Sutton
-	-	1	-	1	1	1	-	1	-	Steeton
4	-	-	-	4	4	4	-	4	-	Thornton
68	40	7	17	133	131	93	39	124	8	TOTAL:



I am indebted to your Engineer and Surveyor for these statistics which relate to the Council's own construction programme. The figures show some slight increase on last year, but the number of private houses built is still very small compared to pre-War figures. The cost, and absence of any official grant or other form of assistance towards private house building, has, undoubtedly some effect on the figures.

TABLE 6.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

Number of dwelling houses in the District	8,294
Number of back-to-back houses included in above	315
1. Inspection of dwelling houses during the year.	
(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	123
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	448
(2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (incl. under sub-head (1) above), which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations	85
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	306
(3) Number of dwelling houses needing further action:-	
(a) Number considered to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	48
(b) Number (excl. those in sub-head (3) (a) above), found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	75
2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices.	
Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	42
3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year.	
A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16, Housing Act, 1936:-	

- |     |   |   |
|-----|---|---|
| (1) | Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs | 1 |
| (2) | Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:- |   |
| (a) | By Owners   | 2 |
| (b) | By Local Authority in default of owners   | - |

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

- |     |  |   |
|-----|--|---|
| (1) | Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied | - |
| (2) | Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:-         |   |
| (a) | By owners  | - |
| (b) | By Local Authority in default of owners  | - |

C. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.

- |     |   |    |
|-----|---|----|
| (i) | Number of representations, etc., made in respect of dwelling houses unfit for habitation.                         | 10 |
| (2) | Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made   | 1  |
| (3) | Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders  | -  |
| (4) | Any action under Sections 10 and 11 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953?<br>If so, what? | -  |

D. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.

- |     |   |   |
|-----|---|---|
| (1) | Number of separate tenements or underground rooms, in respect of which Closing Orders were made   | - |
| (2) | Number of separate tenements or underground rooms, the Closing Orders in respect of which were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit. | - |



4. Housing Act, 1936 - Part IV - Overcrowding.

(a)	(1)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	3
	(2)	Number of families dwelling therein	3
	(3)	Number of persons dwelling therein	23
(b)		Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	4
(c)	(1)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	5
	(2)	Number of persons concerned in such cases	28

New Houses

5. Number of new houses provided during the year:-

By the Local Authority:-	Permanent type	108
	Temporary type	-
By Private Enterprise		24

6. Housing Act, 1949

Any action in connection with:-

(a)	Section 4 - Advances for purpose of increasing housing accommodation?	-
(b)	Section 20 - Grants to persons other than local authorities for improvement of housing accommodation?	-

The figures shown above follow somewhat on the lines of those listed in the report for 1953., and much work remains to be carried out under the Housing and allied Acts.

The work of slum clearance, which was commenced during last year, was continued and five Clearance Areas in the Parish of Addingham were declared and orders made, ten reports were made to the Council in respect of individual unfit houses in Addingham and other Parishes as a result of which one house is to be made completely fit for occupation, one Demolition Order was made and four undertakings were accepted that the houses would not be re-let until completely fit for that purpose. The other cases were still under discussion at the end of the year. Two undertakings to repair



continued -

and three not to re-let houses were also accepted during the year, reports having been made on them in 1953. In addition representations were made in respect of two Clearance Areas in the Parish of Gargrave, following which the Areas were declared and Clearance Orders made in both cases. Confirmation of the above Orders, in respect of some of which, objections had been registered, was not received at the end of the year. A Public Inquiry in respect of the objections above was held on the 12th October.

It is very pleasing to note that under the Housing Repairs and Rents Act a survey is called for and a five year programme of houses which should be demolished is to be furnished to the Minister but owing to the pressure of work very little was done in the compilation of the programme during the year. Much more time and effort is needed on housing work and with the New Year it is hoped that we will be able to commence the survey required.

#### Civil Building Licensing.

The relaxations which were commenced during 1953 were continued throughout the year, and civil building licensing was no longer the problem as in former years, and in fact, presented no obstacle whatever to the carrying out of either work on new properties or repairs and improvements.

The relaxations at the beginning of the year were that no licence need be obtained for work up to £1,000 on existing property, and the automatic issue of licences for new houses with floor areas not exceeding 1,500 sq. ft. From the 1st April the Ministry of Works were to issue all licences for houses with superficial floor areas of not more than 1,500 sq. ft. In all ten licences were issued by this Authority for the erection of new houses, and two for repairs and improvements etc.

On the 10th November, 1954., Housing, The Control of Civil Building Regulation 56A was cancelled, and for the first time since the early days of the war civil building was free from restriction.

#### IMPROVEMENT GRANTS.

Towards the end of the year the Council resolved that for the financial year 1955 - 56 grants under the Housing Act, 1949., as amended by the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954 would be given. It was further resolved that 50% of the approved expenditure would be paid and applications would be considered as received even though no grant would be paid until after the 1st April, 1955.



continued -

On the recommendation of your Chief Inspector the Council decided that the minimum requirements for application would be that after Byelaw approval to the scheme had been obtained, application for grant should be made in duplicate, two further copies of the approved plan should be submitted and tenders from at least two independent builders, based on a detailed Bill of Quantities, should also be submitted; the lower of the two should be priced item by item on the Bill.

Applications as shown below had been made by the end of the year.

<u>Address of Premises.</u>	<u>Amount of Approved Expenses.</u>			<u>Amount of Grant.</u>		
	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
78, Main Street, Addingham	659.	0.	0.	328.	10.	0.
4, Park View Terrace, Salterforth	112.	17.	9.	56.	0.	0.
South View, Lothersdale	849.	13.	5.	400.	0.	0.
2, Eastfield Place, Sutton.	235.	15.	0.	117.	0.	0.

TABLE 7.

CLEANSING REPORT.

<u>Parish.</u>	<u>No. of Bins Collected.</u>	<u>No. of Pails Collected.</u>	<u>Approx. Tonnage Dry Refuse per Parish.</u>	<u>Approx. No. of Loads Dry Refuse per Parish.</u>
Addingham	27,453	1,113	512	315
Appletreewick	1,696	768	29	18
Banknewton		No collection		
Barden	115	-	1½	1
Beamsley	1,144	442	19½	12
Bolton Abbey	962	338	17	10½
Bordley		No collection		
Bracewell & Brogden	868	-	15	9
Bradleys Both	5,304	1,908	92	56½
Broughton	648	416	11	7

-- continued

<u>Parish</u>	<u>No. of Bins Collected.</u>	<u>No. of Pails Collected.</u>	<u>Approx. Tonnage Dry Refuse per Parish.</u>	<u>Approx. No. of Loads Dry Refuse per Parish.</u>
Buckden	-	312	-	-
Burnsall	1,936	715	33	20 $\frac{1}{2}$
Calton	405	-	6	4
Carleton	9,072	-	157	96 $\frac{1}{2}$
Coniston Cold	1,170	-	20	12 $\frac{1}{2}$
Conistone-w-Kilnsey	1,846	390	32 $\frac{1}{2}$	20
Cononley	7,695	530	133	82
Cowling	29,685	2,222	512	315
Cracoe, Rylstone & Hetton	2,326	494	40 $\frac{1}{2}$	25
Draughton	832	1,219	15	9
Elslack	754	436	13	8
Embsay-w-Eastby	8,991	-	16	10
Eshton	754	-	13	8
Flasby-Winterburn	567	-	10	6
Gargrave	13,036	530	226	138 $\frac{1}{2}$
Glusburn	47,612	371	822	506 $\frac{1}{2}$
Grassington	13,500	-	236	144 $\frac{1}{2}$
Halton East	650	742	11	7
Hartlington	416	-	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
Hazlewood-w-Storiths	546	-	9	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
Hebden	3,132	2,444	54	33
Kettlewell-Starbotten	241	312	4	2 $\frac{1}{2}$
Kildwick & Farnhill	6,266	742	108	66 $\frac{1}{2}$
Linton	1,638	260	28	17 $\frac{1}{2}$
Lothersdale	3,270	5,044	57	35
Martons Both	2,132	780	37 $\frac{1}{2}$	23
Salterforth	4,482	1,113	78	48
Steeton-w-Eastburn	41,860	-	723	445
Stirton-w-Thorlby	1,144	-	19 $\frac{1}{2}$	12
Sutton	44,616	424	767	475
Thornton	2,418	78	42	26
Thorpe	374	-	6	4
Threshfield	4,888	812	84 $\frac{1}{2}$	52

Cost per ton of collecting refuse: 31/-  
 Cost per ton of disposing of refuse 5/3d  
 Cost per ton of collecting and disposing refuse 36/3d

Cost per 1,000 head of population for:-

Collection: £324  
 Disposal: £55  
 Collection & Disposal: £379



Approx. tonnage collected during the year:	5,023 tons
Approx. No. of loads collected.	3,091

The cleansing service was continued as in former years, and no extensions were made.

Labour was somewhat of a problem during the year, and for considerable periods we were operating with one or two men short as it was found to be impossible to fill the vacancies caused by men leaving. This factor had some influence on the condition of the refuse tips within the District, and I am not satisfied with the condition in which they now are. It was resolved that a Chaseside mechanical shovel be purchased for use jointly by the Engineer and Surveyor's Department, and on refuse tips, and when this machine is delivered and operative it is hoped that some improvement can be effected.

During June a new Dennis ten cubic yard refuse collector was delivered to replace the Karrier Bantam which was just over ten years old.

Following my monthly report to your May meeting concerning the alleged larceny on Thornton refuse tip, and your subsequent resolution to take proceedings under Section 76 of the Public Health Act, 1936 for sorting over and disturbing the contents of a refuse tip, the Police actually took action against the men concerned for larceny, and a conviction was obtained. Quite apart from the salutary effects of such proceedings, the publicity arising from them is helpful as we are constantly plagued by unauthorised persons entering on refuse tips and disturbing the contents after they have been left tidy, and unauthorised persons tipping material in inconvenient and unsightly sites on the tips.

Several tip fires occurred during the year, the most serious of which was at Stunstead Quarry tip in the Parish of Cowling. I am convinced that in this particular case the fire was caused by youths setting fire to pieces of paper in the tip face, and once a fire is started in this way with the wind blowing towards the tip face the resultant fire cannot be put out by the persons starting it, and consequently it is usually found when the men come on the next collection day that the fire is very serious indeed. I find, on discussing the matter with colleagues, that tip fires are on the increase with many Authorities, and I think there is no doubt that this is due at least in some part to the increase in the use of all night burning grates and stoves from which the hot ashes are put straight into the bin and may be put into the truck still in the hot condition. In fact, this factor did cause a slight fire in one of the wagons, but fortunately the wagon crew saw the load smoking and put out the fire before any damage was done.



During the year the entrance to your Depot at Cononley was surfaced with tar macadam, and apart from this no further improvements to the Depot were carried out.

For some years past considerable difficulty has been experienced in disposing of pail closet contents, this formerly being done mainly by spreading on rough land although in some cases by a pit being made on a refuse tip, and later soiled over. The disadvantage of the former method is, of course, that the site has to be carefully selected to avoid danger to small private water supplies, and during the winter months a considerable amount of time was wasted due to wagons being fast on the land, and having to be towed off. The objection to the second system is that, of course, some nuisance may possibly be caused before the pit is soiled over. During the year two beds were constructed on the Cononley refuse tip with a view to the soil being composted with straw which was being collected from a greyhound kennel within the District, the object being to make a composted manure which could be sold to market gardeners and others. No manure was actually sold although some had been composted.

The charge to business premises for the collection of trade waste, including paper and cardboard, was continued, although in many cases the charge was purely nominal, and did not pay all the cost of collection. Whilst I feel the practice of making a charge should be maintained in the future, it seems that now that the marketing of waste paper is on a firmer footing it might well be possible in the future to make this charge purely nominal.

The salvage bonus to all cleansing workmen was continued throughout the year, and it was allowed to remain at 10%. I believe that this bonus did act as some incentive to the men to bring in more salvage, and indeed has had a noticeable effect on the amount of cast iron which has been sold, and although the quantity of this is still not high, it is far greater than was formerly the case. I am firmly convinced also that a small perquisite such as a bonus does help considerably in retaining workmen particularly during bad weather when there is no shortage of jobs, and indeed the local textile factories are clamouring all the time for labour.

For some years past and during the early part of 1954 some dissatisfaction had been felt on the amount of remuneration being received for, and the service received from the firm which was under contract to purchase the waste paper arising from our salvage operations, and during the early part of the year I was instructed to obtain tenders from other paper mills and merchants with a view to the position being rectified.



After some inquiry and a considerable amount of correspondence the existing contract was terminated and a new one was arranged to take effect as from September with Messrs. Thames Board Mills Ltd., of Purfleet and Warrington.

The Powell baler which was purchased some years ago gave good service throughout the year, although it appeared towards the end that some renewal of parts would be necessary in the future. Whilst this machine was an expensive one I feel that it saves so much time that paper can be baled at least £1 per ton less than was formerly the case with the old methods, and if the salvaging of waste paper and cardboard is to be continued, <sup>MONEY IS BEING SAVED</sup> ~~and~~ It appears to me that it should be continued indefinitely, or at least for as long as the price obtained is equal to the cost of baling, for if this paper and cardboard is not salvaged in this way much of it will undoubtedly appear in the normal collections of household refuse, and will have to be left on the refuse tips, and the expense of dealing with it there might well be more than the cost of baling the paper, and with no consequent income.

I should like to draw your attention to the figures appearing at the foot of table 7 which are less than the average of those contained in the costing returns of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government for urban districts of populations of 20,000 to 30,000. I hope you will agree that this is very satisfactory having regard to the large acreage in which your Cleansing Service has to operate.

I append below a table showing the amount and description of salvage materials which were collected during the calendar year, and the amount charged for collection and disposal of trade waste etc.

TABLE 8.

SALVAGE.

The income from the sale of salvage and services rendered during the calendar year was as under:-

<u>Materials or Service</u>	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.	£.	s.	d.
Mixed waste paper	86	7	2	8	567	15	1
Fibreboard	31	10	3	0	256	15	9
Newsprint	23	13	0	0	211	17	11
Books and magazines	20	17	2	20	165	2	6
Textiles	1	13	0	20	31	13	3

continued -

<u>Materials or Service.</u>	<u>Tons.</u>	<u>Cwts.</u>	<u>Qrs.</u>	<u>Lbs.</u>	<u>£.</u>	<u>s.</u>	<u>d.</u>
Carpets		1	1	0		6	3
String		2	1	7	1	2	11
Cast iron	2	3	1	0	15	3	5
Light iron	1	15	3	0	6	5	1
Aluminium		1	1	11	6	16	0
Brass				14		15	0
Steel			3	0		3	0
Axles & wheels (steel)		3	0	0		13	6
Bed ends etc.	1	2	2	0	4	10	0
Light & cast iron					2	0	0
Beds & cast iron		16	2	0	3	14	3
Light cast iron		8	3	0	2	8	1
6 scrap tyres						5	0
1 vacuum cleaner						2	6
1 radiator						12	6
1 drum						5	0
31 doz. bottles					2	6	6
Collection & disposal of trade refuse					<u>116</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>0</u>
					<u>1,397</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>6</u>



## PRIVATELY OWNED WATER SUPPLIES.

The inspection and sampling of the private water supplies within the District was continued throughout the year, mainly with a view to checking and eliminating any pollution gaining access, but also in some cases at the request of the owners of property who were contemplating extending the supplies with the aid of grants from the County Agricultural Executive Committee. A total of 127 samples were taken and submitted for bacteriological analysis of which 76 were completely satisfactory. The total of unsatisfactory samples was considerably higher than any year within my experience, and it is suggested that the very heavy rainfall throughout the normally dry periods of the year was responsible for this. Representations were made to the owners of supplies which were apparently unsatisfactory, and in six cases improvements were effected by owners.

The use of Berkefeld "Sterasyl" filters was investigated during the year, and seven were installed. After installation bacteriological analyses of the water before filtration and after were obtained, and in all cases where the sample before was showing gross pollution after filtration the water was practically sterile. It seems to me that this type of filter has a great future particularly in parts of the District such as Winterburn and Banknewton which are connected to the water main from the Winterburn reservoir which is completely untreated. The following table gives the results obtained in the various parishes:--

TABLE 9.

### WATER SAMPLING.

<u>Parish.</u>	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Laboratory Report.</u>		
		<u>Satisfactory.</u>	<u>Doubtful.</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory.</u>
Addingham	3	2	--	1
Beamsley	8	5	--	3
Bordley	1	1	--	--
Bracewell	1	1	--	--
Bradleys Both	3	3	--	--
Buckden	3	2	--	1
Calton	9	2	2	5
Carleton	2	2	--	--
Coniston Cold	2	2	--	--
Cononley	2	1	--	1
Cowling	1	--	1	--
Cracoe	5	2	--	3
Draughton	1	1	--	--
Eshton	11	10	--	1
Flasby-w-				
Winterburn	7	7	--	--



- continued

<u>Parish</u>	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Laboratory Report.</u>		
		<u>Satisfactory.</u>	<u>Doubtful.</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory.</u>
Hazlewood-w-				
Storiths	9	7	-	2
Hebden	11	2	2	7
Kildwick	1	1	-	-
Linton	3	2	-	1
Lothersdale	29	13	5	11
Martons Both	1	1	-	-
Rylstone	1	1	-	-
Salterforth	1	1	-	-
Stirton-w-				
Thorlby	1	1	-	-
Sutton	4	3	1	-
Thorpe	3	1	-	2
Threshfield	4	2	-	2
	<u>127</u>	<u>76</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>39</u>

In addition to the above, seven samples were taken and submitted to the Public Analyst for chemical examination and all seven were satisfactory.

Four samples of water were taken at the request of the County Council for plumbo-solvency from the Council's supply to Cononley parish. All four of these samples showed no lead content.

#### SWIMMING BATHS.

The two privately owned baths which are in the parishes of Sutton and Glusburn were inspected and sampled as hitherto. Both these baths have up-to-date filtration and chlorination plants, and all the samples taken were satisfactory, and the plants were working well on every occasion on which inspections were made. A third swimming bath which is situated at Linton, and is used for a limited period in summer by pupils attending the Linton Camp School was sampled on two occasions, the samples being satisfactory. Whilst this swimming bath has no filtration and chlorination plant, it is emptied and re-filled frequently, and between each filling it is dosed with chlorine by hand.



TABLE 10.  
RAINFALL RECORDS.

(in inches).

	<u>Bolton Abbey.</u>	<u>Banknewton.</u>	<u>Winterburn.</u>
January	2.82	3.84	3.65
February	2.39	3.00	2.96
March	2.11	2.73	2.49
April	.57	1.04	1.05
May	3.59	3.23	3.07
June	2.47	3.20	3.68
July	2.98	4.88	4.69
August	7.45	6.53	6.09
September	4.19	4.82	5.65
October	6.13	7.65	9.13
November	5.22	5.59	6.21
December	5.28	5.37	5.12
	<u>45.20</u>	<u>51.88</u>	<u>53.79</u>

The average rainfall for the twelve months was 50.29.

The average rainfall recorded in the above parishes for the last five years:-

1953	33.36
1952	34.76
1951	42.41
1950	43.25
1949	36.84

#### MILK SUPPLIES.

The supervision of milk distribution and sampling was continued as in former years, and the figures set out differ little from those published in earlier reports.

Most of the distribution was still in the hands of producer-retailers, but there was a tendency for the distribution of bulk pasteurised milk by small retailers to increase.

Apart from the producer-retailers there were 13 firms registered and currently retailing as distributors of milk, 11 firms were issued with licences under the Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949., authorising them to sell Tuberculin Tested or Accredited milk within the District, and one was issued with a supplementary licence to retail Tuberculin Tested milk. 6 dealers' licences under the Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949 were issued. In addition, one dairy is registered under the Food and Drugs Acts, 1938 to 1950 and the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949

The number of samples taken was somewhat smaller than in previous years due to pressure of other work. It will be seen from the table reproduced below that all grades of milk being retailed were sampled.

The main emphasis in sampling was again on producer-retailers whose milk is not sampled by any other Authority.

Details are also given below of the number of samples submitted for biological examination, of the 151 taken all were negative except one.

TABLE 11.

MILK SAMPLING RESULTS.

	<u>No. of Samples.</u>	<u>Methylene Blue Test.</u>		<u>Phosphatase Test</u>		<u>Turbidity Test</u>	
		<u>Satis.</u>	<u>Unsatis.</u>	<u>Satis.</u>	<u>Unsatis.</u>	<u>Satis.</u>	<u>Unsatis.</u>
Undesignated milk	131	111	20	--	--	--	--
Tuberculin Tested milk	173	160	13	--	--	--	--
Accredited milk	10	9	1	--	--	--	--
Pasteurised milk	11	11	--	11	--	--	--
T.T. (Pasteurised) milk	6	6	--	6	--	--	--
Sterilized milk	1	--	--	--	--	1	--
	<u>332</u>	<u>297</u>	<u>34</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>--</u>

In addition to being submitted to the methylene blue test the under-mentioned samples were submitted to the biological test for the detection of tubercle bacilli.



<u>Designation of Milk.</u>	<u>Negative.</u>	<u>Positive.</u>
Undesignated	96	1
Tuberculin Tested	45	-
Accredited	10	-

One sample, not included in the above tables, was examined for pathogens as a precautionary measure in a small outbreak of dysentery.

Empty milk bottles were submitted for bacteriological examination to check the efficiency of mechanical bottle washing. The laboratory findings were as follows:-

<u>No. of batches.</u>	<u>No. of bottles.</u>	<u>No. Satisfactory.</u>	<u>No. Doubtful.</u>	<u>No. Unsatisfactory.</u>
7	42	38	4	-

The total number of samples taken and submitted for laboratory examination, including the 7 groups of milk bottles, was 340.

#### TABLE 12.

##### ICE-CREAM SAMPLING.

Registered retailers of ice-cream.	80
Registered manufacturers and retailers of ice-cream (included in above figure)	9

##### SUMMARY OF RESULTS OF LABORATORY EXAMINATION.

Grade 1.	98
Grade 2.	19
Grade 3.	-
Grade 4.	<u>2</u>
Total number of samples taken:	<u>119</u>



The number of samples of ice-cream submitted for methylene blue examination showed a little increase over last year's figures. On the whole the improvement seen last year has been maintained.

The two samples in grade 4 were both taken from the same shop retailing an ice-cream made outside the District. On receipt of this result a communication was sent to the Chief Sanitary Inspector for the District in which the factory was situated drawing his attention to the samples. After his investigation at the factory, which was apparently inconclusive, further samples gave satisfactory results.

In addition to the above 14 shops were registered for the manufacture, storage and sale of sausage or cooked meats, and one for the re-sale of cooked meats.

#### FOOD PREPARATION.

Each year an attempt is made to reach food traders by a different method in an endeavour to persuade them to pay more attention to the hygiene of food handling. This year the Ministry of Food booklet "Clean Catering" was distributed to the proprietors of catering establishments, licensed premises which also cater, etc. This booklet is an excellent one, and if it is read and the information contained put into practice, some good should result.

During July, 1954., I presented a report as under:-

"For some considerable time the occupier of a grocer's shop has been urged, firstly by one of your additional Sanitary Inspectors and latterly by myself, to clean and tidy his shop. These verbal notices were reinforced during early June and July by written intimations to the occupier that unless some improvement was forthcoming I should have no alternative other than reporting the facts to you for enforcement action. The result of all representations made to the occupier has been very small, and the premises are only a very little better now than they were before they were made. The condition of these premises is almost indescribable, floors and walls are in a filthy condition, it is practically impossible to get into the store room upstairs for empty boxes, rusty cans of produce and other odds and ends, and not only are the floors and walls very dirty, the floor is littered with various fragments of groceries dropped there over a very long period. It seems to me that no improvement is likely to be achieved and maintained without very drastic action being taken, and it is recommended accordingly that enforcement action, as set out in Section 13 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, be proceeded with against the occupier!"



At the July meeting a Sub-Committee was appointed to inspect the premises, which reported that:-

"During the inspection it was reported to the Committee that conditions had improved to some extent since the last inspection was made by the Chief Sanitary Inspector, but nevertheless it was found that the premises still required a considerable amount of tidying and cleansing before they could be considered to be even moderately satisfactory. After some discussion the occupier agreed to allow the Council to remove his trade refuse on a contract basis, and to carry out all the work necessary to thoroughly cleanse the rooms and subsequently to maintain them in a cleanly condition".

It was also resolved that the occupier be given a further three months to put conditions in order.

At the expiry of the further three months conditions were even worse, and at the end of the year little or no improvement was apparent.

During the early months of the year the attention of the Public Health Committee was drawn to the dilapidated condition of a lean-to building at the back of a bakehouse within the District. The room was, and in fact still is, being used for the finishing of confectionery. This building is made mainly of wood, but has been patched with corrugated iron and pieces of match boarding on the outside. The roof is of cement asbestos sheets. Walls are rotted particularly near the bottom, the window frames are rotted, and the whole structure is not wind and weatherproof. The roof is leaky. The floor, which is of concrete, is holed in one or two places, and is generally irregular and cracked. The paint on the interior surface of the walls is shelling off, and owing to their condition it is impossible for any decorating material to stick on the surface.

Following a visit of a Sub-Committee of the Council it was decided that "as the work required was of a structural character, it was recommended that the owners be informed it was the opinion of the Council they are responsible, and if the work was not carried out the Council would have no alternative but to take action under Section 13 of the Act".

Later, as nothing had been done, it was further decided that further action should be taken against the owners and occupier under Section 13 of the Food and Drugs, Act, 1938. Enforcement action was not, however, brought to Court as the occupier gave an undertaking that he himself would put up a new and satisfactory structure to use as part of his baking premises. At the end of the year no work had commenced.

TABLE 13.

REPAIRS, IMPROVEMENTS ETC., TO FOOD PREPARING  
PREMISES.

Re-decoration carried out	39
New floors laid or floors repaired	5
New shelves and counters installed	1
Drainage renewed or repaired	3
Sinks installed	5
Hot water provided	6
Walls and/or ceilings re-plastered	4
New floor covering provided	1
Glass counters and display cabinets provided	6
New window frames fitted	1
Structural alterations	2
New sanitary accommodation provided or existing sanitary accommodation improved	2
Ventilation improved	2
Miscellaneous improvements	1

TABLE 14.

FOOD SHOPS AND CATERING ESTABLISHMENTS.

The total number of food shops etc., within the District is 291, and details as to the type and number of premises are given below:-

General Food Shops	6
Grocers' Shops	44
Butchers' Shops	29
Cafes, Canteens and Restaurants	29



- continued

Fried Fish Shops	16
Ice-Cream Premises	15
Licensed Premises	36
General Food Shops and Bakehouses	9
General Food Shops and Ice-Cream Premises	17
General Food Shops, Bakehouses & Ice-Cream Premises	3
General Food Shops, Bakehouses, Cafes, Canteens and Restaurants and Ice-Cream Premises	1
Grocers' Shops and Bakehouses	6
Grocers' and Butchers' Shops	2
Grocers' Shops and Cafes, Canteens and Restaurants	1
Grocers' and Fried Fish Shops	1
Grocers' Shops and Ice-Cream Premises	32
Grocers' Shops, Cafes, Canteens and Restaurants and Ice-Cream Premises	1
Bakehouses, Butchers' Shops and Ice-Cream Premises	1
Cafes, Canteens and Restaurants and Ice-Cream Premises	13
Cafes, Canteens and Restaurants and Licensed Premises	23
Cafes, Canteens and Restaurants, Ice-Cream and Licensed Premises	1
General Food Shops, Bakehouses and Cafes, Canteens and Restaurants	1
Bakehouses and Butchers' Shops	1
General Food Shops, Cafes, Canteens and Restaurants and Ice-Cream Premises	2
Grocers' and Butchers' Shops and Ice-Cream Premises	1



## MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

In the light of the intimation received from the Ministry of Food in the early months of the year that from 1st July the meat trade would be freed from control, considerable time and effort was put into the inspection and recording of existing slaughterhouses.

All those inspected were found to be quite inadequate judged by modern standards. After the receipt of several applications for slaughterhouse licences a Slaughterhouse Sub-Committee was formed, and a high standard was decided upon for application to all private slaughterhouses. This standard included adequate space for handling carcasses, in most cases in a separate room or apartment, adequate and readily accessible lairage, not in view of animals being killed, satisfactory lighting, both day-light and electric. A sufficient supply of wholesome hot and cold water, and a sink or lavatory basin and soap and towels for the cleansing of hands and utensils were also asked for. A good drainage system was insisted upon in all cases, usually connected to the public sewerage system. Outside paving, floors, walls and ceilings were all repaired or renewed so as to be easily cleaned.

Some idea of the scope of the work done may be gleaned from the fact that the cost of reconditioning the slaughterhouses ranged from approximately £400 to £1,600.

Butchers and owners of slaughterhouses co-operated very well indeed, and before the end of June, work in six slaughterhouses was sufficiently well advanced for killing to be commenced on the appointed date, and the work was completed shortly afterwards.

One further slaughterhouse which has been licensed for a number of years for the slaughter of horses was reconditioned to the same standards, and a cooling room and refrigerator added later in the year.

The re-introduction of private slaughtering put a further heavy burden on the Inspectors whose time was already fully occupied in other duties, and from the 1st June more overtime had to be worked to inspect animals killed, some of which were moved to adjoining markets early Monday morning. So far as I am aware all carcasses within the District were inspected, usually within a short time of slaughter.

I append hereto tables showing the increase of slaughter month by month, the amount of food rejected, and the distribution and percentage of various diseases and conditions.



TABLE 15.

CARCASES INSPECTED AND RESULTS OF INSPECTION.

	Cattle ex. Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep.	Pigs.
No. killed and inspected	314	117	14	1,339	2,400
Rejections for all diseases except Tuberculosis	-	3	-	-	-
Whole carcasses	45	19	-	79	90
Carcasses of which some part or organ was rejected	14.33	18.80	0.00	5.89	3.75
% of numbers inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	-	4	-	-	1
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY. Whole carcasses	38	31	-	-	33
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	12.10	29.9	-	-	1.41
% of numbers inspected affected with tuberculosis					

TABLE 16.

MEAT.

No. of animals inspected during the year:-

<u>Beef.</u>	<u>Calves.</u>	<u>Sheep.</u>	<u>Pigs.</u>
431	14	1,339	2,400

Amount of meat and organs surrendered and destroyed or  
directed to animal feeding: 6,635 lbs.

Analysis of unsound meat destroyed or directed to animal  
feeding.

Beef:	4,215 lbs.
Pork:	510 lbs.
Mutton:	-
Organs (all animals)	<u>1,910 lbs.</u>
	<u>6,635 lbs.</u>

Type of Disease.

Weight.

Tuberculosis	3,969 lbs.
Acute Fever	675 lbs.
Oedema	605 lbs.
Septicaemia	400 lbs.
Distomatosis	207 lbs.
Parasites	207 lbs.
Abscesses	94 lbs.
Cirrhosis	90 lbs.
Infarcts	82 lbs.
Pleurisy	56 lbs.
Pneumonia	40 lbs.
Pericarditis	38 lbs.
Pentastomes	33 lbs.
Cloudy Swelling	28 lbs.
Necrosis	25 lbs.
Bacterial Necrosis	20 lbs.
Fatty Degeneration	14 lbs.
Ascaris Lumbricoides	12 lbs.
Melanosis	10 lbs.
Actinomycosis	7 lbs.
Mastitis	6 lbs.



continued -

<u>Type of Disease.</u>	<u>Weight.</u>
Lunbriscities	4 lbs.
Hydated cysts	4 lbs.
Bruising	3 lbs.
Degeneration	2 lbs.
Congestion	2 lbs.
Peritonitis	2 lbs.
	<u>6,635 lbs.</u>

Beef.

Tuberculosis	2,736 lbs.
Acute Fever	617 lbs.
Oedema	520 lbs.
Septicaemia	342 lbs.
	<u>4,215 lbs.</u>

Organs.

Tuberculosis	720 lbs.
Distomatosis	137 lbs.
Abscesses	76 lbs.
Cirrhosis	70 lbs.
Oedema	58 lbs.
Septicaemia	58 lbs.
Acute Fever	58 lbs.
Parasites	45 lbs.
Pentastomes	33 lbs.
Cloudy Swelling	28 lbs.
Bacterial Necrosis	20 lbs.
Fatty Degeneration	14 lbs.
Actinomycosis	7 lbs.
Mastitis	6 lbs.
	<u>1,330 lbs.</u>

Pork.

Tuberculosis	480 lbs.
Oedema	27 lbs.
Bruising	3 lbs.
	<u>510 lbs.</u>

	<u>Type of Disease.</u>	<u>Weight.</u>
<u>Organs.</u>		
	Infarcts	73 lbs.
	Pleurisy	56 lbs.
	Parasites	42 lbs.
	Pneumonia	40 lbs.
	Pericarditis	38 lbs.
	Tuberculosis	33 lbs.
	Necrosis	15 lbs.
	Ascaris Lumbricoides	12 lbs.
	Melanosis	10 lbs.
	Distomatosis	8 lbs.
	Hydated cysts	4 lbs.
	Lunbriscities	4 lbs.
	Cirrhosis	5 lbs.
	Abscesses	3 lbs.
	Peritonitis	2 lbs.
	Degeneration	2 lbs.
	Congestion	2 lbs.
		<u>349 lbs.</u>

Mutton.

<u>Organs.</u>	Parasites	120 lbs.
	Distomatosis	62 lbs.
	Abscesses	15 lbs.
	Cirrhosis	15 lbs.
	Necrosis	10 lbs.
	Infarcts	9 lbs.
		<u>231 lbs.</u>



MEAT AND OTHER FOODS REJECTED AS UNSOUND.

Total meat condemned 5,727 lbs. including 7 complete beast carcasses and 1 pig carcase, weighing together 3,185 lbs., the remaining 2,542 lbs. being organs and parts of carcasses.

Of the 4 whole cow carcasses rejected as a result of generalised tuberculosis three were sent for slaughter under the Tuberculosis Order 1938.

The following amounts of other foods were also found to be unfit for consumption, the owners in each case voluntarily surrendering the foods.

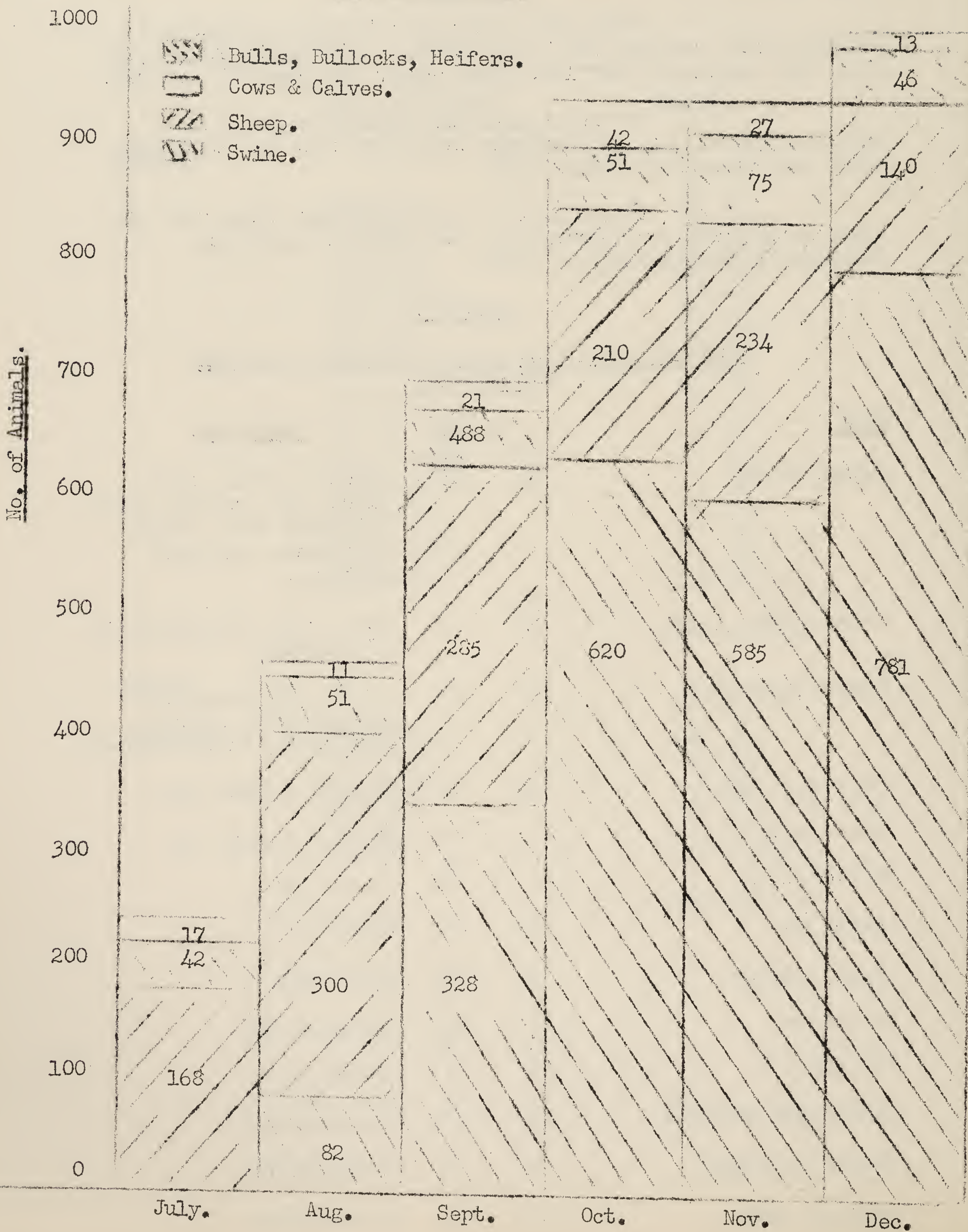
TABLE 17.

MEAT AND OTHER FOOD FOUND TO BE UNFIT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION.

<u>Food.</u>	<u>Weight.</u>		<u>Condition.</u>
	<u>Lbs.</u>	<u>Ozs.</u>	
Canned fruits	47	15	Blown & damaged cans, blown cans, rusted, blown & damaged cans, rusted containers and blown contents.
Corned beef	62	0	Blown cans, decomposition of contents.
Canned vegetables.	22	13	Blown cans, blown and damaged cans, rusted containers, blown contents.
Evaporated milk	2	14	Blown & damaged cans
Canned crab		7	Blown & damaged can
Bottled brawn		8	Broken jar
Gammon ham	10	9	Blown can
Canned sausage	3	6	Blown cans
Cooked ham	47	15	Decomposition
Bottled jam	2	0	Broken jar
Canned pork shoulder	9	10	Decomposition
Canned ox tongue	6	0	Decomposition
Luncheon meat	16	0	Decomposition



Bar Chart illustrating number of animals slaughtered and inspected.  
July to December.





## PEST CONTROL.

### Dirty and Verminous Houses.

After a complaint three houses were inspected and found to be infested with bugs. Treatments were carried out on three occasions to eradicate them. In addition infestations of cockroaches were dealt with at two mills within the District.

### Rats and Mice.

The period covered by this part of the report is from the 1st April, 1954 to the 31st March, 1955.

As hitherto your Rodent Operative was engaged in dealing with surface infestations on the Council's services, those owned by third parties and in the Council's sewers.

The free service to private householders was continued, and has been a great help in eradicating small infestations before they become major ones.

The first sewer treatment was a full one but the second was modified by agreement with the Technical Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. A summary of these two treatments is given below:-

#### First Treatment.

Number treated.	Poison & bait base used	Manholes showing take
908	Sausage rusk & zinc phosphide	66

#### Second Treatment.

Number treated.	Poison & bait base used	Manholes showing take
463	Sausage rusk & zinc phosphide	46

The total number of manholes is 1,310.

The above tables, when compared with those for previous years, will, I think, demonstrate how regular treatment is progressively reducing the rat population.

The table overleaf gives details of surface infestations dealt with:-

# RODENT CONTROL.

<u>Type of Property.</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>No. of</u> <u>Insp- infes-</u> <u>ected tations</u> <u>found</u>	<u>Rats</u>		<u>Mice</u>		<u>Treated.</u>
			<u>Major.</u>	<u>Minor.</u>	<u>Major</u>	<u>Minor.</u>	
Sewage works	18	18	7	11	-	-	18
Refuse tips	13	12	8	4	-	-	12
Dwelling-houses	146	34	22	7	-	5	34
Agricultural premises	40	29	13	16	-	-	24
Business premises	46	25	9	10	5	1	24
	263	118	59	48	5	6	112

## PETROLEUM (REGULATION) ACTS, 1928 and 1936.

90 licences authorising the keeping of petrol, petroleum products and/or carbide of calcium were issued. These licenses authorised the storage of some 143,200 gallons of petrol and 336 lbs. of carbide of calcium.

My remarks in last year's report concerning the careless handling of petrol are still operative, and it cannot be emphasised too strongly that great care should always be used in the handling and storage of petroleum products.

## TABLE 18.

### FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions of health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

<u>Premises.</u>	<u>No. on</u> <u>register.</u>	<u>Inspections.</u>	<u>No. of</u> <u>Written</u> <u>Notices</u>	<u>Occupiers</u> <u>Prosecuted</u>
------------------	-----------------------------------	---------------------	---	---------------------------------------

- (1) Factories in which  
Secs. 1,2,3,4 & 6  
are enforced by Local  
Authorities.

12

5

-

-

- (2) Factories not incl.  
in (1) in which Sec.7  
is enforced by the  
Local Authority.

130

101

29

-



continued -

<u>Premises.</u>	<u>No. on</u> <u>register.</u>	<u>Inspections.</u>	<u>No. of</u> <u>Written</u> <u>Notices.</u>	<u>Occupiers</u> <u>Prosecuted.</u>
(3) Other Premises in which Sec.7 is enforced by the Local Author- ity (excl.out- workers'premises).	-	-	-	-
TOTAL:	142	106	29	-

## 2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

<u>Particulars.</u>	<u>No. of cases in which</u> <u>defects were found.</u>		<u>No. of cases in which</u> <u>prosecutions were</u> <u>instituted.</u>
	<u>Found.</u>	<u>Remedied.</u>	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)-			
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	6	4	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not incl. offences relating to Outwork).	11	4	-
TOTAL:	17	8	-

Visits to factories were continued, and a number of improvements were effected.

As hitherto I should like to express my appreciation of the co-operation received from factory management, which was of a very high order.

4 certificates setting out the adequacy of the means of escape in case of fire were issued after thorough investigation and inspection of the premises concerned, and the means of escape had been improved in all four cases.

### OUTWORKERS.

As hitherto outworkers were reported by each factory concerned, and lists were sent on to the appropriate Officers of the District in the case of those residing outside.





WEST RIDING COUNTY COUNCIL.

DIVISION NO.1.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DIVISIONAL MEDICAL OFFICER  
FOR THE YEAR 1954.

CONTENTS.

1. General Description
2. Staff
3. Health Centres
4. Care of Mothers and Young Children
5. Midwifery Services
6. Home Nursing
7. Health Visiting
8. Home Help Service
9. Mental Health Service
10. Vaccination and Immunisation
11. Health Education
12. Children neglected or ill-treated
13. Care and After Care
14. Ambulance
15. School Health Service
16. Medical Examinations





## 1. GENERAL DESCRIPTION.

The Division consists of the following districts:-

	<u>Population</u>	<u>Area in Acres</u>
Silsden Urban District	5,820	7,101
Earby Urban District	5,348	3,519
Barnoldswick Urban District	10,282	2,764
Skipton Urban District	13,210	4,211
Skipton Rural District	23,715	146,071

Ø (Registrar General's Preliminary Report on the 1951 Census).

Social conditions in this mixed urban and rural community changed little during the year. Such changes as occurred were beneficial, being attributable to full employment with a corresponding rise in the standard of living, and improved housing conditions. But although much has been done to improve the latter, much remains to be done; and it is hoped that full advantage will be taken of the provisions of "The Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954" to secure the demolition or improvement of substandard property which remains. Farming, one of the most important occupations, had a difficult year. For the shortage of farm labour persisted, and the hay crop was gathered under most adverse conditions in a period of bad weather, unparalleled in the last fifty years.

## 2. DIVISIONAL STAFF: as at 31st December, 1954.

M. Hunter.	M.B.E., M.D., D.P.H. Divisional Medical Officer.
C. Harris.	M.B., B.Ch. Assistant County Medical Officer.
R.R. Stoakley.	M.B., B.Ch. Assistant County Medical Officer.

## NURSING.

### (a) Divisional Superintendent Health Visitor.

Miss F. Stevenson S.R.N., S.R.C.N., C.M.B., Part 1, H.V.

### (b) Health Visitors/School Nurses.

Miss M. Birdsall S.R.N., C.M.B. Part 1, H.V.

Mrs. D. Crabtree S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.

Mrs. A.M. Dickinson S.R.N., S.C.M.

Miss N. Easton S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.

Miss R.E. Fawcett S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.

Miss I. Fell S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.

Miss M. Smith S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.

Mrs. I.G. Roscow S.R.N.

Mrs. B. Roberts S.R.N., S.C.M.

Miss M. Whaley S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.

Miss N. Williams S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.

### (c) Home Nurses.

Mrs. V.M. Flynn S.C.M., S.E.A.N.

Mrs. H.C. Hill S.R.N., S.C.M.

Mrs. I. Molyneux S.R.N., S.C.M.

Mrs. M. Parkinson S.R.N.

Mrs. M. Pratt S.R.N.

### (d) Home Nurse/Midwives.

Miss M. Brown S.R.N., S.C.M.

Miss E.M. Butler S.R.N., S.C.M.

Miss P.J. Crompton S.R.N., S.C.M.

Miss C. Herbert S.R.N., S.C.M.

Mrs. D. Inman S.R.N., S.C.M.

Mrs. E.M. Lingard S.R.N., S.C.M.

Miss P.M. Oversby S.R.N., S.C.M.

### (e) Home Nurse/Midwives/Health Visitors.

Mrs. P.M.E. Bunnett S.R.N., S.C.M.

Miss A.M. Hunter S.R.N., S.C.M.

Mrs. B.A. Priestley S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.

### (f) Midwives.

Miss E. Barlow S.C.M.



OTHER STAFF.

Ø Mental Health Social Worker.

Mrs. J. Barber      S.R.N., S.C.M.

Ø Home Teacher (Under Mental Deficiency Act).

Miss M.E. Marshall. M.A.

Ø Venereal Diseases Social Worker.

Mrs. Doige-Harrison.

Ø Speech Therapist.

Miss M. Buckley., L.C.S.T.

Ø (Part time in Division 1).

DAY NURSERY STAFF.

Matron	1
Nursery Assistants	2
Cooks and Domestics	2

ADMINISTRATIVE AND CLERICAL STAFF.

Administrative (Chief Clerk)	1
Clerical	8

HOME HELP STAFF.

Full time	15
Part time	30

OTHER DOMESTIC STAFF.

Part time	3
-----------	---

The Division has again been fortunate in having a full complement of staff throughout the year, helped no doubt, by a favourable geographical position. Calls upon the staff, particularly the home nurses, have at times been heavy; but thanks to their willing co-operation all demands have been met.

It is gratifying to report that co-operation between the three branches of the Health Service - hospitals, general practitioners and local health authority, shows some signs of improvement, after a period of six years when all our efforts appeared to be in vain. A great deal more can be done in this direction, and it must be done if the general public is to receive the full benefits from this most costly Health Service. A Service which seems to have measured its progress by a yearly increase in the numbers of patients, hospital staffs, beds and drugs, and to have no policy except an arbitrary financial "ceiling", for reducing the annual bill for ill-health.

### 3. HEALTH CENTRES.

The establishment of Health Centres was to be one of the main features of the National Health Service, and their provision would certainly improve co-operation, help the patients by saving their time, and in the long run would likely reduce the total cost. But they are expensive to build, and instead of their being numbered in hundreds there are still less than ten in the country. Furthermore, there appears to be a reluctance of the medical profession for their establishment, which did not previously exist. Group practice appears to be the alternative, and the Minister of Health is reported to have said that this offers more promise for the future. It may well do so for the general medical practitioners, but unfortunately the patient cannot arrange his illnesses and accidents to coincide with his doctor's presence, and he may be seen by up to half a dozen doctors, particularly during holiday periods. He does not seem to find this entirely satisfactory, and it becomes increasingly difficult to reconcile the concept of the family doctor, - the erstwhile guide, counsellor and friend - with the large group practice.

In the absence of health centres we continue to use various types of rented premises for the local health authority services. Most of these are unsuitable and involve the staff in a wastage of time and effort. But we have been using them for years, and the services are generally well patronised despite the unattractiveness of the surroundings.



#### 4. CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN.

##### (a) BIRTHS:

##### Public Health Act, 1936 - Section 203.

Return of births notified in the Divisional Area during the period 1st January - 31st December, 1954.

Details.	Domiciliary		Institutional		Total.
	Live.	Still.	Live.	Still.	
(a) Primary Notifications					
(i) Urban Districts	66	1	275	8	350
(ii) Rural Districts	60	-	238	2	300
(b) Add Inward Transfers:	4	-	241	7	252
(c) Total Notifications received:	130	1	754	17	902
(d) Deduct Outward Transfers	-	-	61	-	61
(e) Total Adjusted Births	130	1	693	17	841

##### Analysis of Institutional Births:

Born in (a) Hospitals:

(b) Maternity Homes:

(c) Nursing Homes:

Total:

689	17
1	-
3	-
693	17

(b) ANTE-NATAL CLINICS

Name and address of Ante-Natal Clinic (whether held at Infant Welfare Centre or other premises).	No. of sessions now held per month.		No. of women in attendance.		Total No. of attendances made by women during year.
	Combined with I.W.	Doctors Midwives only	No. of women who No. of attended new cases during included year. in Col. 5.	Combined with I.W.	
Barnoldswick Methodist Hall, Mosley Street	-	4	125	107	528
Farby Old Grammar School	-	2	58	43	274
Glusburn Ebenezer Sunday School	-	2	26	19	133
TOTALS:	-	8	209	169	935



## (c) INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.

Name and Address of Centre.	No. of Infant Welfare Sessions now held per mth.	No. of children who first attended a Centre of this Local Authority during yr. and who at their first attendance were under 1 yr. of age.	No. of children who attended during yr. and who were born in 1954 1953 1952-49	Total No. of children who attended during yr.	No. of attendances during yr. made by children who at date of attendance were: Under 1 but 2 but 1 yr. under 2. 5.	Total attendances during yr.
Barnoldswick Methodist Hall	8	129	112 108 148	368	1612 451 392	2456
Barby Old Grammar School	4	59	52 66 41	159	1088 340 214	1642
Gargrave Institute	2	29	28 18 47	93	328 196 223	747
Glusburn Fenceezer Sunlay Schl.	4	80	67 54 39	160	1101 226 163	1490
Grassington Church Fouse	2	28	25 26 24	75	306 270 157	733
Silfden Kirkgate S.Sch.	4	80	69 55 47	171	804 167 99	1070
Skipton Millfields Hall	12	125	104 129 173	406	2006 599 584	3189

(d) MOBILE CLINICS.

Name and Address of Centre.	No. of Infant Welfare Sessions now held per mth.	No. of children who first attended a Centre of this Local Authority during yr. and who at their first attendance were under 1 yr.	No. of children who attended during yr. and who were born in: 1954 1953 1952-49	Total No. of children who attended during year.	No. of attendances during yr. made by children who at date of attendance were: Under 1 yr. 1 but under 2. 2 but under 5.	Total attendances during yr.
Addingham	2	24	17 13 11	41	242 20 56	318
Bradley	2	7	6 15 9	30	34 18 8	60
Carleton	2	9	9 19 23	51	97 113 23	233
Cononley	2	8	8 14 18	40	72 113 95	280
Cowling	2	19	18 14 21	53	231 57 65	353
Lothersdale	2	2	2 3 3	8	9 13 10	32



(e) CARE OF PREMATURE INFANTS.

A premature infant is defined as one weighing  $5\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. or less at birth, irrespective of the period of gestation. 57 premature infants were born in the Division during the year, some of which were transferred to childrens hospitals for treatment. Special equipment is kept for use on the midwife's request when premature infants are to be nursed at home.

(f) DAY NURSERIES.

As a result of a change in the policy for admission, the Earby Day Nursery was closed during the year, and those children who were eligible were offered places at the Barnoldswick Nursery. This change in policy has also affected the attendances at Barnoldswick and by the end of the year there had been considerable reductions in both children and staff. The expense of this service will be appreciated when it is pointed out that in the day nurseries in the West Riding the daily cost per child attendance was 16s. 2.9d in 1953 - 54.

(g) CHILDRENS HOMES.

There are two homes in Skipton, Burnside House and Aireview House. They are administered by the Welfare Department, but all children are examined by the Health Department Staff on admission and discharge, and periodically during their stay.

(h) CARE OF THE UNMARRIED MOTHER AND CHILD.

The illegitimate birth rate expressed as a percentage of all live births has now fallen to about half what it was in 1945., i.e., from nearly 10% to under 5%. And the infant mortality rate for the illegitimate is now approaching the rate for the legitimate. These figures give cause for some satisfaction, but the fact remains, that one in every twenty one children born in this country is illegitimate, which in figures means 32,503 illegitimate children born in 1953. (Figures quoted from "The Report of the Ministry of Health, 1953"). A proportion of these will be legitimized on marriage, but there must be many children born every year under conditions which may ultimately lead to grave personal and social difficulties.

This Division has its share of illegitimate births, unfortunate victims of human frailty, and admission to hostel or home for confinement and for a period thereafter has been arranged when requested. The County Council provides financial assistance in such cases, and much practical help has been provided by the Bradford Diocesan Moral Welfare Council. Some babies have been adopted, for which there is a demand; but in many cases there exist problems of moral and social rehabilitation which are most difficult to solve, even with the full co-operation of all statutory, voluntary and denominational bodies.



(a) BIRTHS:

The total number of domiciliary confinements was 131 compared with 710 in hospital, giving a percentage of 12. The proportion of hospital confinements varies greatly in this country, ranging from 34% to 91%, with an average of 64%; whilst the Ministry of Health estimate that hospital provision is necessary on medical and social grounds in about half the confinements.

In this Division it has not been necessary to refuse a bed to a single applicant for several years past. Maternity homes are expensive units, and if the Ministry's recommendation was adopted, the reduction in financial expenditure would be great; and many women would willingly have their babies at home who now go into hospital beds which are so freely available.

(b) ANTE-NATAL CLINICS:

Attendances at the existing ante-natal clinics continued at a satisfactory level. At these clinics all patients have blood taken for Rhesus and Kahn testing, and haemoglobin estimation. Weighing, urine testing and blood pressure readings are carried out at every visit. Furthermore, patients are encouraged to discuss health matters and preparations for the confinement with the doctor, health visitor and midwife, and to attend the relaxation exercise classes which are provided at two clinics.

(c) CHILD WELFARE CENTRES:

Details of centres and attendances are given in table form. The mobile centre has continued to operate on two days each fortnight, providing a service for mothers and children living in less accessible places, and the village of Bradley was added to its itinerary during the year.

Assistance at the static centres has again been provided by members of the Voluntary Committees, and we are greatly indebted to these ladies for their continued support.

(d) DENTAL CARE:

The County Council has one dental clinic in this Division, at Barnoldswick. The Senior Dental Officer has been able to offer free treatment to all expectant and nursing mothers referred to him from the Earby and Barnoldswick clinics, whilst in other parts of the Division local dental practitioners have continued to provide a service under the County Council's scheme.



(i) WELFARE FOODS SCHEME.

During the year the Local Health Authority took over the distribution of dried milk, cod liver oil, orange juice and vitamins from the Ministry of Food. This involved a great deal of work at short notice, and distribution centres were established at Skipton, Silsden, Crosshills, Earby, Barnoldswick, Gargrave and Grassington. In addition, cod liver oil and orange juice are distributed through voluntary agencies at Appletreewick, Linton, Addingham, Sutton, Farahill, West Marton, Lothersdale, Cowling and Kettlewell.

(5) MIDWIFERY SERVICE.

Two whole time midwives have been employed, and eight home nurses also undertake domiciliary midwifery in the more rural areas. These members of the staff are trained to give gas and air analgesia during childbirth, conducting normal deliveries as independent professional practitioners with a doctor available when required. They also give pethidine, and will be trained to give trilene. The fear that the era of the midwife's independence might be coming to an end thus seems unfounded.

STATISTICS:

Number of confinements in the Divisional area attended by midwives:-

	Institutional Total No. of cases.	Domiciliary Cases.			
		Dr. not booked. Dr. present at time of delivery of child.	Dr. not present at time of dlvy.	Dr. booked. Dr. present at time of dly. (either booked Dr. or another).	Dr. not present at time of dly. of child.
Midwives employed by the Authority	-	-	6	42	79
Midwives employed by Voluntary Organisations	-	-	-	-	-
Midwives employed by Hospital Management Committees.	523	-	-	-	-
Midwives in Private Practice:					
(a) Nursing Homes	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Others	-	-	-	-	-



## 6. HOME NURSING.

To-day most cases of acute illness go to hospital, and the work of the home nurses may be divided into three categories - (i) minor ailments and infections; (ii) post-operative and other cases discharged from hospital, and (iii) the chronic sick and the dying.

Much of their work falls into the last category, and along with it many duties which are not strictly nursing, but which have so often to be undertaken because the sick and aged have no relatives to assist them. There is no limit to the demands which may be made upon the nurses, for whilst hospitals may set a limit to the number of patients they will admit, the nursing of cases requiring admission (particularly the long-term sick) inevitably falls on the home nurse, often under difficult and deteriorating conditions. Fortunately this work is fully appreciated, and it has never been necessary to refuse a call upon the five whole-time nurses, and the eight home nurse/midwives who have been employed during the year.

Mobility is obviously of the greatest importance if this service is to be sustained, and the standard of care continued. The majority of nurses have their own cars, perhaps acquired under the assisted purchase scheme. Three nurses run cars owned by the County Council, and only two are without transport.

A summary of the work undertaken by the home nurses is as follows:-

(i)	Number of visits paid by home nurses during the year	... ..	35,933.
(ii)	Number of cases attended by home nurses during the year (excluding midwifery and maternity cases)	... ..	2,258.

## 7. HEALTH VISITING.

It is not generally appreciated that health visitors are also qualified midwives and nurses, and the important contribution which can be made to the health of the community by individuals with such training is only now being realised.

Under the provisions of the National Health Service Act, the health visitor is provided for home visiting, for the purpose of giving advice as to the care of young children, persons suffering from illness, and expectant or nursing mothers, and as to the measures necessary to prevent the spread of infection.



Here, they are also employed as school nurses, and tuberculosis health visitors, so that each has an area (usually with a clinic as well) in which she can employ her knowledge and skill amongst the families, and which become very well known to her.

A valuable part of her work is the teaching of health in these homes, but she can give much assistance either on her own initiative or to the family doctor in cases of feeding difficulties in infancy, the supervision of the aged, and the welfare of the tuberculous and the disabled. She can also provide information for hospitals which would otherwise be difficult or impossible to obtain, and so materially assist in the patients treatment.

The health visitors investigations into the fate of certain premature babies, and of the effect of virus diseases in pregnancy have been continued.

#### STATISTICS:

Number of visits paid by health visitors during the year in addition to their attendance at clinics and welfare centres:-

	<u>First Visits:</u>	<u>Total Visits:</u>
(i) Expectant Mothers	176	482
(ii) Children under 1 yr.	806	6,122
(iii) Children between 1 & 5 yrs.	-	8,450
(iv) In respect of Tuberculosis	-	1,008
(v) Other cases	-	1,815
	<u>982</u>	<u>17,877</u>

#### 8. HOME HELP SERVICE.

If a census could be taken of the benefits which have been derived from the National Health Service Act, there is no doubt that this service would take a high place in the order of appreciation, particularly in an area such as this where there has been no unemployment, and the employment of women in the mills is traditional.

Families are in general much smaller than they used to be, and they move about the country more. Members are, therefore, not available to help their sick or aged relatives, and the demands on the home help service increase year by year.



In such circumstances, the home help is employed to do everything which falls to the lot of the housewife, including cooking, cleaning, washing and the care of children. Alternatively, she may attend the aged to do the heavier work for a few hours each week. Or attend other cases for such time and duties as their circumstances require. During most weeks between 80 and 100 individuals or families have been provided with whole time or part time help, and the clerical and administrative work involved in this provision is considerable.

Cases provided with home helps during the year came within the following classifications:-

		<u>No. of cases.</u>	<u>Hours employed.</u>
(i)	Maternity (incl. expectant mothers) ...	54	4,698
(ii)	Tuberculosis ...	4	762
(iii)	Chronic sick, incl. aged and infirm ...	253	37,531
(iv)	Others ...	9	2,984
Total:		<u>320</u>	<u>45,975</u>

#### 9. MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE.

The functions of the Local Health Authority under existing legislation are as follows:-

(a) The appointment of duly authorised officers to take initial proceedings for removal to hospital of persons who are to be dealt with under the Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts.

(b) The duty under the Mental Deficiency Acts 1913 - 18 of ascertaining what persons in the area are defectives; providing suitable supervision for them, guardianship, or institutional care; and making arrangements for the provision of suitable training or occupation for defectives not in institutions.

(c) The duty to make arrangements for the care and after-care of persons suffering from mental illness or mental defectiveness, so far as provision is not otherwise made.

(d) The provision of an ambulance service for the purpose of the mental health service.



Under the terms of paragraph (a) the Duly Authorised Officer has dealt with the following cases during the year:-

(i)	Number of cases certified under Section 16 of the Lunacy Act, 1890	18
(ii)	Number of cases dealt with under Section 20	-
(iii)	Number of cases dealt with under Section 21	-
(iv)	Number of cases in which authorised officers have assisted in obtaining admission under Section 1 of the Mental Treatment Act	1
(v)	Cases dealt with under Section 5 of the Mental Treatment Act	1
(vi)	Any other cases referred to the authorised officer for action, but where it was not found necessary to proceed under the Lunacy or Mental Treatment Acts	4

These figures may not appear to be large, but they refer to a comparatively small population, and the fact remains that a majority of the hospital beds in this country is devoted to the institutional care of the mentally sick, and there is need for more. 5,000 additional beds in mental and deficiency hospitals have been provided since 1948., and capital works authorised will provide another 7,000. This provision should go some way towards reducing the overcrowding, and the long waiting lists.

The majority of mental defectives are now brought to notice through the School Health Service, being found unable to benefit from education in an ordinary school or special school. Occasionally elderly defectives are notified who have been cared for by relatives until old age or ill health prevents their continuing this care.



During the year 1954., 12 new defectives were discovered, 11 of whom were under 16. At the end of the year there were 65 mental defectives resident in the Division, of whom 14 were under 16. 51 had been placed under Statutory Supervision, 11 were under voluntary supervision, and one was on licence from an institution. In addition, 56 defectives whose home addresses are in the Division were receiving institutional care.

The Mental Health Social Worker visits defectives in Divisions 1 and 2 who are looked after by their parents or relatives, and who may be working under supervision in various occupations. She gives advice and assistance, particularly over difficulties which may arise. Reports are also submitted by her to mental hospitals on patients who are on licence or being considered for holiday leave.

The social worker may visit occasionally patients who have returned home after hospital treatment for mental or nervous breakdown, but this after care, which is often so desirable, has developed slowly in these parts, and lack of staff prohibits its expansion.

Mental defectives who can benefit by occupational therapy and training receive this from a Home Teacher who conducts a Group Training Centre in Skipton on three days each week. On the other days the teacher visits the homes of some who cannot travel to the Centre.

There are 12 children on the register of this Centre. Dinners are provided through the School Meals Service, and travel warrants for the defectives and their escorts. This service is greatly appreciated by the parents, for the training is valuable, and they are relieved of the strain of looking after their defective children for a proportion of each week.

#### 10. VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION.

Under the National Health Service Act the Local Health Authority has a duty to make arrangements for persons in its area to be vaccinated against smallpox and immunised against diphtheria. Vaccination and immunisation are, therefore, offered to the parents of all babies, and if desired are carried out by the family doctor or at any child welfare centre. Immunisation is again offered when the child reaches school age. The elimination of diphtheria is conditional upon the maintenance of an adequate level of immunisation, the objective being the immunisation of not less than 75% of babies before their first birthday. Unfortunately, both national and local figures are far below that target, and if parents continue to leave their children unprotected, there may be a return of diphtheria outbreaks as has occurred recently in the Midlands where among 78 cases there were 6 deaths - all of them children who had not been immunised. Parents might also bear in mind that as recently as 1944., there were 23,199 notified cases of diphtheria with 934 deaths.



Smallpox occurred in Lancashire and Yorkshire in 1953. It caused alarm, and the number of vaccinations increased. But parents soon became apathetic once the epidemic was eradicated, and less than one third of babies are now being brought forward for this procedure.

Whooping cough was made a notifiable disease in 1940. Since then it has been stated that well over one million cases have been notified in England and Wales alone, and over 10,000 children have died from the disease. Of the survivors a proportion will be left with permanent lung damage. It is estimated that 70% of the child population must be immunised before whooping cough can be eliminated as a major infectious disease, and it is now firmly believed that a high degree of immunity, even if it falls short of complete protection, can be provided by three injections given at monthly intervals starting at the fourth or fifth month of life.

#### STATISTICS:

(a) Number of persons vaccinated (or re-vaccinated) during period:-

Age at date of vaccination	Under 1 yr.	1 yr.	2-4 yrs.	5-14 yrs.	15 yrs. or over	Total.
Number vaccinated	283	12	28	152	268	743
Number re-vaccinated	-	-	3	87	253	343

(b) Number of children who completed a full course of primary immunisation against diphtheria during the year.

Age at date of final injection.		
Under 5.	5 to 14.	Total.
642	135	777

(c) Number of children who were given a secondary or reinforcing injection (i.e., subsequent to complete full course) during the year ... 773.



(d) Number of children who completed a full course of immunisation against whooping cough during the year:--

Age at 31. 12. 54. i.e. born in year.	Under 1 1954	1 1953	2 1952	3 1951	4 1950	5 1949	Total
Number immunised	63	218	38	11	12	1	343

## 11. HEALTH EDUCATION.

There is such a mass of propaganda to-day on such a wide variety of subjects that much of it must fail in its objectives. Health propaganda by advertisement, pamphlet and poster must obviously share in this high proportion of failure, and although all are used, much more reliance is placed upon the personal approach, and in group teaching.

The health visitors are in a very good position to deal with this subject when making their visits, and can advise on mothercraft, home management, the prevention of disease and accident, and the upbringing of children. Their advice is particularly important where there are cases of tuberculosis in the home.

At the ante-natal relaxation exercise classes the health visitors share the instruction with the midwives, giving informal talks on mothercraft to the most receptive of audiences. This year it has been possible to enlarge our field of work, and film strips and talks on child care and development have been given at child welfare centres. Film strips and talks have also been given in a number of senior schools. Despite what is being done it is obvious that we are still only dealing with a small part of this enormous problem of healthy living - for that is what we really mean. And until more can be done - much more - there seems little prospect of reducing the nations enormous bill for ill health and preventable disease.

## 12. CHILDREN NEGLECTED OR ILL-TREATED.

The Divisional Medical Officer is responsible for co-ordinating the activities of public and voluntary bodies engaged in the prevention of neglect or ill-treatment of children in their own homes. To this end conferences are held regularly, and attended by all who have an interest in the welfare, education and housing of these families. A great deal of information is thus made available for those workers and their activities can be co-ordinated to the best advantage in dealing with problem families, and others who may be brought to notice in one way or another.



Rehabilitation of such families is a difficult business, and we have no Family Service Unit to work in their homes. But some results have been achieved, and the conferences are of undoubted value. In this respect the services of the local inspector of the N.S.P.C.C. have been greatly appreciated.

### 13. CARE AND AFTER CARE.

There is a wide field of responsibility for the Local Health Authority and references must necessarily be brief. Sick room requisites in the form of air rings, rubber sheets, bed pans and bed rests have been provided free of charge, each home nurse holding a small stock. Crutches, wheel chairs, spinal carriages, special beds and other larger items being supplied through the Divisional Office. Recuperative Home Treatment has been arranged for certain adults on their doctor's recommendation, and a few children have been admitted to convalescent homes through the School Health Service. Extra milk has been supplied to 35 cases of tuberculosis during the year, on the advice of the Chest Physician.

The exchange of information between the Almoners and this Division has shown a considerable increase, home nurses and home helps being provided at their request for patients discharged from hospital. Information on social conditions has also been provided, and many reports on the circumstances of applicants for admission to hospitals for the long-term sick.

Much attention has been given to the ageing population in one form or another. Ageing by virtue of the fact that instead of the high fertility of the nineteenth century, there is now a lower level of fertility, and the continuous expansion of population has been replaced by a more stable structure in which the proportion of old people is no longer artificially low. Additionally, the great reduction in mortality, particularly amongst infants and from infections, means that many people are now living into old age which, until recent times they would never have reached. The majority of old people manage surprisingly well, but if they fall ill and require nursing, it is always difficult to obtain a hospital bed on the female side. The provision of a "half way house", the joint responsibility of Regional Hospital Board and Local Health Authority would meet the needs of some such cases of temporary illness. It would also meet the needs of many others - e.g., those no longer requiring hospital treatment, but not fit to manage in their own homes or in an old peoples' home, sometimes referred to as the 'frail ambulants'.



#### 14. AMBULANCE SERVICE.

There has been no alteration in the ambulance arrangements during the year, and judging from comment and absence of complaint, it would seem that a satisfactory service is being provided.

The Barnoldswick depot serves West Craven; Silsden and adjacent parishes are served from Keighley; Addingham and Beamsley from Guiseley; and the rest of the Division from the Skipton depot, with the exception of Upper Wharfedale which is dealt with by the St. John's Ambulance Brigade operating under agency arrangements from Grassington.

#### STATISTICS:

1954

Mileage covered: 139,868

Patients carried: 18,449

#### 15. THE SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE.

The responsibilities of the department in respect of schools have continued without interruption. The basis is the examination of each child on at least three occasions during school life along with special examinations of those children who need particular observation or care, and the provision of guidance to the Youth Employment Officer when the time comes for pupils to leave school. In addition, B.C.G. vaccination has been offered since September to all children in the thirteen year old group. The purpose of this is to provide children with an artificial immunity who are shown by skin testing to be susceptible to tuberculosis. The results of this are given in the table below, and further reference will be found in an earlier section of this Report.

The tuberculin testing of school entrants has also been extended. This consists of applying a little specially prepared jelly to the skin, and in the case of a child showing a positive reaction, search is made amongst the family contacts to try and find the source of infection. This is done with the co-operation of the Chest Physician, and is a means of discovering hitherto undetected but infectious cases of tuberculosis in the community.

B.C.G. vaccination, and the tuberculin testing of school entrants have involved the staff of the department in much extra work. But it has been willingly undertaken and accomplished in the belief that these procedures will eventually lead to a reduction in the incidence of tuberculosis.



During the year two teachers were found to be suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis. All contacts were given a tuberculin test, the results of which indicated that there had been no widespread dissemination of the disease.

The free provision of a general practitioner service (under the National Health Service Act) for every child has had little effect so far on the School Health Service, and co-operation between the doctors concerned is in most instances satisfactory. Co-operation with the hospital staffs has also improved. That is as it should be, for all are workers in the same health service; and as there are still 20% of men medically examined on registering for national service found to be unfit for service on medical grounds, then there is obviously a need for the fullest co-operation in this wide field of child health.

TABLE I.

(a) PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

Number of inspections in the prescribed groups:-

Entrants	946
7 to 8 year group	13
Last year primary	748
First year secondary	143
Last year secondary	<u>416</u>
Total:	<u>2,266</u>

(b) OTHER INSPECTIONS.

Number of Special Inspections	1,286
Number of Re-inspections	<u>25</u>
Total:	<u>1,311</u>

(c) PUPILS FOUND TO REQUIRE TREATMENT.

Group	Defective vision(excl. squint)	For any of other conditions recorded in Table 11A	Total individual pupils
Entrants	22	231	230
7 to 8 yr. group	1	3	4
Last yr. primary	61	169	205
First yr. secondary	13	19	27
Last yr. secondary	25	99	112
Total:	122	521	578

(d) CLASSIFICATION OF THE GENERAL CONDITION OF ALL PUPILS  
GIVEN A ROUTINE EXAMINATION.

Age Groups.	No. of pupils inspect- ed.	A. (Good) No. % of Col.2.	B. (Fair) No. % of Col.2.	C. (Poor). No. % of Col.2.
Entrants	946	552 58.4	368 38.9	26 2.7
7 to 8 yr. group	13	8 61.5	4 30.8	1 7.7
Last yr. primary	748	492 65.7	231 30.8	25 3.5
First yr. secondary	143	99 69.2	44 30.8	- -
Last yr. secondary	416	280 67.3	126 30.3	10 2.4
Total:	2,266	1,431 63.1	773 34.1	62 2.8



TABLE 11

(e) RETURN OF DEFECTS FOUND BY MEDICAL INSPECTION IN THE  
YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1954.

All defects noted at medical inspection as requiring treatment are included in this return, whether or not this treatment was begun before the date of the inspection.

Defect or Disease.	Periodic Inspections.		Special Inspections.	
	No. of Defects.		No. of Defects.	
	Requiring treatment	Requiring observation but not treatment	Requiring treatment	Requiring observation but not treatment
Skin	69	6	11	7
Eyes: (a) Vision	122	114	46	108
(b) Squint	30	9	8	11
(c) Other	20	5	2	3
Ears: (a) Hearing	2	7	3	7
(b) Otitis Media	11	8	3	6
(c) Other	6	8	7	8
Nose or Throat	81	147	50	92
Speech	14	9	8	14
Cervical Glands	5	18	4	20
Heart and Circulation	5	52	3	68
Lungs	62	46	15	48
Developmental:				
(a) Hernia	7	2	1	4
(b) Other	15	60	8	40
Orthopaedic:				
(a) Posture	18	44	9	21
(b) Flat Feet	94	33	29	32
(c) Other	34	23	12	40
Nervous System:				
(a) Epilepsy	-	2	-	6
(b) Other	5	5	-	7
Psychological:				
(a) Development	2	12	1	32
(b) Stability	5	25	3	14
Other	52	15	9	22

(f) B.C.G. VACCINATION OF SCHOOL CHILDREN.

Number offered B.C.G. Vaccination	501
Number accepting B.C.G.	316
Number Mantoux Negative	179
Number given B.C.G. Vaccine	179

(g) CLINIC ARRANGEMENTS:

School clinics are held in Skipton, Silsden and Barnoldswick where children requiring observation can be seen regularly, and given appropriate treatment and advice. Orthopaedic and Ear, Nose and Throat clinics are held at Skipton Hospital, conducted by specialists of the Regional Hospital Board. The Board also provides an ophthalmologist for the examination of children with defects of vision, and his clinics are held in Skipton and Barnoldswick. Clinics are held in the same places for speech therapy, Miss Buckley's services being shared with Divisions 1 and 3. Last, but by no means the least important is the Child Guidance Clinic conducted by Dr. MacTaggart for children showing maladjustment and behaviour problems.

(h) HANDICAPPED PUPILS:

There are 71 names on the register of handicapped pupils, these being pupils who, owing to some mental or physical disability, require special educational treatment. The division into the various categories being:-

Blind	3	Partially Deaf	3	Physically	
Partially sighted	2	Maladjusted	1	Handicapped	16
Deaf	5	Delicate	13	Educationally	
				Subnormal	28

Total: 71

Of these 71 pupils, 23 were attending special residential schools as follows:-

Schools for the Blind	1	Schools for Maladjusted	0
Schools for Partially sighted	2	Schools for Delicate	4
Schools for the Deaf	4	Schools for Physically	
Schools for Partially Deaf	1	Handicapped	3
		Schools for Educationally	
		Subnormal	8

Total: 23



5 children were receiving home tuition during the year.

(i) PUPILS UNDER OBSERVATION.

In addition to the pupils classified as handicapped under the Education Act, 1944, 57 children with defects of a less serious or temporary nature were under observation at the end of the year.

(j) EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN.

The County Council has Byelaws relating to the employment of children, of compulsory school age, which require the children to be examined by the School Medical Officer within two weeks of the date when employment begins. This being to ascertain that such employment will not be prejudicial to the child's health. During the year 35 children were examined for this purpose.

(k) CLEANLINESS.

The school nurses undertake the examination of childrens' heads for infestation with vermin. During the year 20,255 examinations were made, and 203 pupils found to require treatment. In many cases the infestation is a chance one, and does not recur, but in a few families where there is neglect or lack of care, treatment is undertaken in co-operation with the parents and teachers.

(l) DENTAL SERVICE.

The following statistics have been provided by Mr. O.A. Long, Senior Dental Officer. Treatment has been on a reduced scale, because of the absence of Mr. Ellwood on a year's study leave in the U.S.A.

Number of children inspected	2,517
" " " found to require treatment	2,005
" " " offered treatment	1,683
" " " treated	1,458
" " attendances	3,322
" " extractions:	
(a) temporary	1,666
(b) permanent	288
" " general anaesthetics	9

Number of fillings:

(a) temporary	648
(b) permanent	2,167

Number of other treatments:

(a) temporary	207
(b) permanent	1,192

16. MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS.

Particulars of medical examinations carried out by the Divisional Medical Staff are as follows:-

Entry to County Superannuation Scheme	35
Teachers and entrants to Training College	36
Fitness for work	... .. 6

In addition certain examinations were carried out under the Children Act, 1948., and the Mental Deficiency Acts.







